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MISCELLANIES

OF THE

Philobiblon Society.

VOL. XIII.

Quia vero de Librorum amore principaliter disserit, placuit nobis, more veterum Latinorum, ipsum Graeco vocabulo Philobiblon amabiliter nuncupare.

Richard de Bury.

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NARRATIVE BY MR. EDWARD GRIMSTON,

OF HIS CAPTIVITY IN THE BASTILLE,

AND HIS ESCAPE THEREFROM.

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NARRATIVE BY MR. EDWARD GRIMSTON.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

AM indebted to the Earl of Verulam *for his kind permiſſion to copy the following Narrative, for the uſe of this Society, from the Original Manuſcript of the Author, which is preſerved among the Records at* Gorhambury; *and I am alſo indebted to Mr.* Sainſbury *of the Public Record Office for his aſſiſtance in deciphering the Manuſcript, which is in a handwriting of peculiar obſcurity.*

The Narrative itſelf has not before

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been printed, and it appears to me to merit a place in the miſcellany of the Philobiblon Society, *from the quaintneſs of the language in which it is written; from the romantic incidents deſcribed in it: and from the light it throws on one or two paſſages of hiſtory.*

The firſt mention we meet with of Mr. Grimſton *at the Siege of* Calais *is to be found in the Report of Mr.* John Highfield, *Maſter of the Ordnance to Queen* Mary, *which is publiſhed in the* Hardwicke *State Papers, Vol.* I, *p.* 114. *In this document it is ſtated that on the third day of the Siege "My Lord* (Grey) *commanded the ſoldiers of his garriſon to keep their ordinary wards, and* Maſter Grimſton *to the breach with the reſidue of the beſt ſoldiers." The reſiſtance as is well known was unavailing, for the place was ill provided with ſtores; no ſuccour was ſent to its relief, either*

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by England or by Spain; and the Duke de Guiſe *marched an overwhelming force againſt it. Accordingly it appears from an entry in the Calendar of State Papers (Domeſtic Addenda,* Elizabeth, *Vol.* 9, *No.* 66), *that on the 7th January* (1558) Thomas *Lord* Wentworth, *Sir* Ralph Chamberlain, Edward Grimſton, *and* Nicholas Alexander, *ſent a herald and trumpeter to the Duke of* Guiſe *to ſurrender the Town of* Calais *with all its goods, worth* £20,000, *to the King of* France, *after which the four admitted a Captain and* 30 *men of the enemy's army by the Boulogne Gate, that they might ſeize the city.*

The captivity of Mr. Grimſton, *as related by himſelf in the following Narrative was the reſult of this capitulation.*

In 1559 (*October* 25) *Throckmorton, who was the ambaſſador of Queen* Elizabeth *at* Paris, *reported to Her*

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Majeſty that "Mr. Grimſtone, *who was Comptroller of* Calais, *and had of a long time been priſoner in the Baſtille here, had eſcaped by a window with ſome danger of his life and is fled. I think* (*adds the Ambaſſador*) "*that ere this he muſt have arrived in* England, *as I can hear nothing what has become of him ſince.*" (*Foreign Papers,* Elizabeth, *Vol.* viii., 1559, *No.* 43.)

Throckmorton *was in fact privy to his eſcape, and had ſupplied him with ſome of the means of effecting it.*

In the following month, November 25, 1559, Grimſton *had reached England and was a priſoner in Sir* John Maſon's *houſe, and ſhortly to be brought to trial.* (*Idem, No.* 121.)

The trial took place on the 1*ſt December, when* Edward Grimſton, *late Comptroller of* Calais, *accuſed of the treaſonable ſurrender of* Calais

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and the Marches to the Duke of Guiſe *and the* French, *7th January, 4th and 5th* Philip *and* Mary, *being brought to the bar by the Lieutenant of the Tower, pleaded "Not Guilty," and put himſelf upon the County. Verdict "Not Guilty." The Indictment and Record on twelve ſheets of parchment exiſt in the Public Record Office, where I have examined them. The trial ſeems to have been a matter of form, though the charges were preſſed againſt the priſoner with the ferocious vehemence of that age.*

It would ſeem, however, that the effect of theſe proceedings had been to ſequeſtrate and attach the property of Edward Grimſton, *for on the 4th December, three days after the Trial, Queen* Elizabeth *vouchſafed to ſign the following Document, which is alſo preſerved among the muniments of* Gorhambury.

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A Diſcharge from Treaſon, Edward Grimſton and Elizabeth his Wife by Queen Elizabeth. Dated at the Tower 4th Decr 1st year of her Reign.

ELIZABETH R.

Elizabeth by the grace of god Quene of Englande Fraunce and Irelande Defender of the faith &c. To all and ſynglie the Barons and Officers of Or Exchequer our Attorney and Solicitor generall, Juſtices, Mares, Sheriffes Bailiffes and all other our officers and miniſtres and all and every the Receyvors Bailifes Reves Fermors and tenantes of and to or ſubiect Edwarde Grymeſton and to all other pſon and pſons whatſoever to whom the receypt and cuſtodie of the Revenues of the ſaid Edward Grymſton hath geven[1]

[1] *Sic* in MS. Apparently a miſtake for *been*.

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comytted gretynge. Know ye that at the humble ſute and peticon of Or obedient ſubiecte Elizabeth Grymeſton the wief of the ſaid Edwarde Grymeſton of or eſpeciall grace and favor we are pleaſed and contented that the ſaid Elizabeth Grymeſton and ſuche other ꝑſons as now be or hereafter from tyme to tyme ſhalbe aucthoryſed and appoynted by the ſaid Edwarde Grymeſton or by the ſaid Elizabeth for and on his behalf ſhall and may frely enjoie receyve ꝑceyve levie and take to the uſe of the ſaid Edwarde Grymeſton all manner of rentes ſervices, yſſuys, profittes and revenues wth tharrerages of the ſame ariſſynge comynge and growinge of any of the mañors lands Teñtes offices and heriditamentes of the ſaid Edward Grymeſton in whoſe hands ſo ever the ſame Rentes ſervices and yſſues now remayne or be.. And further whereas

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an Indytment of high treaſon agenſt the ſaid Edwarde Grymeſton and others remayneth emong other our records of the Crowne before Us in o^{r} benche: We likewiſe by thes p̃ntes of o^{r} mere aboundant g̃ce at the humble petic̃on aforeſaid do ſygnifie unto you O^{r} ſaid Attorney Generall that o^{r} will and expreſſe pleaſure is that no proceſſe of capias or exigent be from henceforth awarded upon the ſaid indytment ageynſt the ſaid Edwarde Grymeſton and that the further ſute and proſec̃ucon of all ſuch proceſſe heretofore awarded in that behalf do utterly ceaſſe untill o^{r} furder pleaſure therein ſhalbe ſhewed. And theſe our l̃res ſhalbe unto you and every of you ſufficient warrant and diſcharge agaynſt us o^{r} heires and ſucceſſors for the p̃miſſes Any auc̃thoritie comyſſion or other matter or cauſe heretofore had geven or made to the con-

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trary now^th ſtanding. Geven under Our Signet at O^r Tower of London the forth daie of December in the firſt yere of o^r reigne.

L.S.

Six months afterwards (*June 25th*, 1560), *the Queen iſſued her Commiſſion to the Duke of* Norfolk, *authorizing him to appoint* Edward Grimſton, *Muſter Maſter of the Army of the North, to ſtop the great frauds uſed amongſt ſundry his Captains and ſoldiers of his Army.* (*Foreign Papers*, Elizabeth, *Vol.* 15, *No.* 128.) *There are ſeveral letters of* Grimſton, *written in this capacity, and in the ſame handwriting as the following Narrative: and the Rolls or Muſters of the Army of the North, controlled by him, are preſerved at* Gorhambury.

Laſtly, there are traces of the ſame

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Edward Grimſton *as late as February 5th* 1592 *and June 23rd* 1596, *acting as a Juſtice of the Peace at* Colcheſter. (*Domeſtic Papers of Elizabeth, Vol.* 259, No. 21.)

He died, as it appears from the endorſement on the manuſcript, in February 1599, *O.S. i.e.* 1600, *aged* 92, *ſo that he lived very nearly through the whole of the ſixteenth century.*

HENRY REEVE.

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A DISCOORCE OF MY FATHER EDWARDE GRYMESTON HIS BLESSED ESCAPE OUT OF CAPTIVITY BEINGE KEPTE PRISONER IN THE BASTILL AT THE CITY OF PARRIS IN FRANCE XIXTEENE MONETHES.[1]

AT the Erneſte Requeſte of my frends I ame movyde to call to mynde & to ſette downe in wryttynge my beynge takyn pryſoner at the loſſe of Callys. My contynuance in pryſſon & my delyverye by the Grette favor ayde & aſſyſtence of Almyghtye God.

Fyrſte Callys was yeldyd to the Ducke of Guyſe in the cryſtmas the 4 & 5 yere of Kynge Phylype &

[1] Calais ſurrendered 7 Jan. 1558. Grimſton eſcaped October 1559 from the Baſtille.

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QueneMarye, the Lorde Wentworthe (beynge Deputtye) Sr. Raff Chamberleyne Capteyne of the Caſtell, Sr. Anthonye Ager marſhall beynge ſlayne with all the Reſte of the counſell ther beynge takyne pryſoners. I Edwarde Grymeſtone, beynge then Comtroller of the ſayde Towne & Marches with all the Garnyſons & Fortreſſes of that ſyde of the Sees, after the Towne was yeldyd was takyne & caryed owt of the Towne of Callys by Monſuer de to the Frenche campe lyenge att Sandgatte & Remaynyde ther too nyghts & beynge then caryede backe to Callys after too dayes remaynynge ther I was Gyven & delyveryde as pryſoner to Monſuer Sopyer whoo comyttyde me to the charge & cuſtodye of an Italyan beynge a farere or ſmythe & to fower Frenchmen harkebuſſyers, whoo caryede me the fyrſte daye

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from Callys to Bolleyne in my nyghte Gowne withowte any boottes & the nexte daye to Hardlowe wher I & theye remaynyde ontyll the Kynge retornyde & hade dyſſolvyde hys campe: frome thence I was caryede to Abbevyll wher I hade a newe payer of bootes & frome thence to Bewoyſs: frome thence to Saynte Denyſſe to dynner wher they procuryde me the ſyghte of all the Shryns & Gewelles of the houſs, & ſo that nyghte to Parys to the houſſe of one Gavaſton an Italyan & Capteyne of the Watche of horſmen in Parys wher I was kepte cloſſe pryſoner ontyl aſhewenſdaye & then caryed from thence to the Baſtyll wher I remaynyde *xix monthes & beyng ther I was often ſolyſytyde & movyde by one Shampynerd ſervante or ſolyſyter to Mounſouer Sepyer to yelde to the paymente of ten thuſande crownes for my*

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Ranſome beynge a ſome moche more then I was anyways able to paye. I conſeyvyde ſome hope to be releaſyde by the concluſyon of the peaſſe, but that hope fayllynge I fell then Into conſyderatyone howe I myghte eſcape & preſentlye dyde fall into a grete ſyknes of a burnynge fevere, as lykwyſe a Spanyarde beinge under me dyde fall ſyke ſo as by meane of owr ſyknes we hade leave to come togyther,[1] which was that I ſhulde deſyer oon Mychell that caryede all the keys of the houſſe & oon other ſoldyere to

---

1 "Ontyll yt pleſſyde God to procuer & "worke hys delyverance. Ine the tyme of hys "beynge ther pryſoner he was oftene tymes "Towchyde with ſyknes but ſpeſyallye once "when he cuntynuyde nyne weekes & dyde "never cum owt of hys chamber Ine which "tyme he hade ſome lybertye Gyven hyme "to have companye & converſatyone with a "Spanyarde beynge alſo ſyk & was lodgyde "under my chamber & beynge oftene to-"gyther we enteryde into devyce for owr

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ſuppe with me & beynge at ſupper I ſhulde ſende downe the ſame ſoldyere with ſome of my meatte to the Spanyarde whoo ſhulde preſentlye ether bynde hyme or kyll hyme & uppon the noyſſe I ſhulde do the lyke with hyme that remaynyde with me: & ſo havynge the keyſſe of the houſe we ſhulde gowe to the other Spanyerde hys chamber & ſette hyme at lybertye & ſo peruſſe the holl houſſe & take all the ſoldyers & putte them into a vaulte wher they myghte

---

"Eſcape & dyſcoverynge of yt to another "Spanyarde then pryſoner whoo lykyde owr "devyce verye well & agreyde uppone a platte "howe yt myghte be beſte done."

N.B. The above was firſt written, but has been croſſed through, and the words in italics written in their ſtead, which are the ſame as thoſe in the *firſt* paragraph on the back of the firſt ſheet.

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call & crye longe inowghe befor theye ſhulde be harde. Thys devyce fayllyde by takynge awaye of laſte Spanyarde to another pryſon: then dyde the fyrſſte Spanyarde & I agree uppon the worke of fylles & wer agreyde to ſende hys boye into Flanders for them & in the tyme of thys devyſſe he was removyde from me & imedyatlye the peaſſe was talked & agreyde uppon bytwen France & Spayne & I lefte In pryſon withowt hope of helpe, but by Godes Gret Goodnes & marcy, & theruppone callynge to Gode bothe to helpe & advyſſe me, I conſeyvyde that by the helpe of fylles I myghte wynne my lybertye or elles to remayne ther whyls I dyde lyve; & ſo havynge leave to ſe & ſpeake with Sr Nycholas Throkmorton I ſhewyde hyme my devyce & prayede hys helpe to procuer fylles for me, & ſayde unto hyme that Hanſe Beame

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lyenge then in Parys myghte be a goode meane to provyde theme for me, which indede he dyd, & they wer comyttyd to Mr. Mydlemer, whoo bycauſe Sr Nycholas Throkmorton was to attende uppone the Kynge to the coronatyon at Raymes, dyde come unto the pryſone to ſe me & was admyttyde to ſpeake with me, & ſyttynge togyther uppon an oppen benche in the courte he dyde convaye the ſylles into the pockete of my gowne; & ſo after a lyttyll longer talke we tooke leave & departyde he to hys maſter & I to my chamber wher I was ſomwhat trublyde in mynde wher I myghte beſtowe the ſylles ſecretlye, & thynkyng the prevye a plaſſe onlyke to be ſerchyde I dyde beſtowe them ther ontyll I dyde begyn & enter my worke of fyllynge: to wrytte the maner & dyſcurſſe howe yt was doone yt wolde be over longe & to

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ſmall purpoſſe. I was xxj^{ti} dayes in fyllynge; I cutte to bares of irone eyther of them the bygnes of myne arme & oone croſſe bare twyſſe cutte: to cover the ſynder of the fyllynge was ſomwhat trobleſome, but I dyde yt with watter & aſhes; & to make the bares to ſtande faſte after the fyllynge I dyde yt with wette browne papper. When I had fynyſhyde the worke I was gretlye troblede & carfull for the maner of my comynge owt & for a mette man to reſayve me. My lorde Graye beynge then in Parys upon hys dyſpatche owt of pryſon I was dryven & forſyd to devyſſe to wrytt unto hyme to make my haſte awaye bycauſe of my redyneſſe to come forthe which was in danger to be dyſcoveryde yf I dyde ſtaye longe. I prayde hyme to have Savedge his mane to reſayve & conducte me at my comynge forthe but he dyde

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leave Hance to attende me whoo reſayvyde me verye badlye as I ſhall notte herafter. The daye befor my comynge forthe I preparyde ſomethynges in redynes as by rypppynge of oone of my canvas curteynes puttynge my ſhyrtes handkerchyffe & bookes into a canvas wallette, & in the pockete of my nyght Gowne I dyde putte my bage & ſerteyne moneye, In yt alſo my bootes & ſpurs: All which I hade made in ſuche redynes as after I hade ſuppyde & Myhell the Kepper [of] the Keys whoo dyde ſuppe with me was departyde. the nyghte beynge ſomewhat darke I dyde fyrſte take owt of the wyndowe oone of the grette bares (which wayde above fortye pounde) & layde yt under my bedd in the ſtawe (*ſic*), & then I dyde pute my Gowne my wallet & my bottes owt of the wydow which made ſome noyſſe in the fallynge ſo as I was

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in dowghte to be dyſcoveryde. I dyde then (as I accuſtoomablye hade doone) ſhotte & bare in my wyndowe. Abowghte nyne of the Clocke the ſayde Myhell & other of the ſoldyers dyde come as theye dyde always euſſe to ſerche & to leave a ſoldyare with me & then to ſhotte & lock me in, & that doone I hade preparyde ſome wyne wherwith I applyede my ſoldyar & my boye ſo as they hade mor luſt to ſleppe to [*ſic* ?than] to watche as apperyde after: by my ſterynge & often ryſſynge they helpyde me to bed & browghte me my booke & candell for I dyde nyghtlye euſſe to rēde & put owt the candell myſelf, & beynge in bede & parſayvyde they wer a ſleppe, I dyde fyrſte ryppe my upper ſhette & knytte yt togyther corner wyſſe & that doone I dyde ryſſe & faynyde occatyone to Goo to the prevye (as I hade formerly doone uppone ſome

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occatyone of louſnes) and ther dyde putte one my hoſſes & made myſelfe ſomewhat redye & then retornyde to my bede & putte myſelfe under the nether ſhette & dyde ryppe the ſame & knytte yt as I hade doone the other & then dyde knytte them & the curtene all togyther corner-wyſſe which dyde contayne togyther ſo muche as dyde ſarve me beynge ſextene yardes to the grounde. When thys was doone & redye I dyde take owt the other barres of the wyndowe & leyde them downe ſoftlye uppoone the grounde, & then dyde make faſte the one ende of my ſhettes & curteyne to oone other barre of the wyndowe & ſo putte them owt of the wyndow & dyde ſhette yt cloſſe & ſtayed halfe an ower to trye whether they dyde ſleppe ſuerlye. In thys tyme (prayenge to Gode to aſſyſte & helpe me) I oppenyde the wyndowe & putte myſelfe forthe & (by a de-

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vyſſe that I hade befor made) dyde drawe the wyndowe as cloſſe as yt was befor & ſo dyſſendynge by my ſhettes into the dyttche (after I hade gyven Gode Thankes) I lookyde for my thynges that I hade befor putte owt & I founde my bootes & wallet but my Gowne takyne awaye which putt me in grette fear & agonye, & the mor bycauſe I dyde not fynde Hance ther to reſayve me as I hade formerlye appoyntyde but (prayenge Gode to dyrecte me) I dyde take uppe my bootes & wallete & dyde gooe owt of the dytche uppe into a plaſſe then in buyldynge to be a bulwarke, & ther in a heappe of grette fre ſtoones I dyde drawe oone my boottes & with an halfe kerchyffe dyde bynde uppe my berde after the Scottyſhe maner then euſſyde, & dyde take my wallete uppone my ſhulder & (at a bretche in the wall) I dyde goo into the cyttye for I durſte not gooe the (*ſic*)

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the feldes nor woodes bycauſſe I hade noo clothes to cover me frome colde nor weappons to defende me from the wolves or anye other thynge, & walkynge, all that nyghte uppe & downe in the cyttye & (by Godes helpe) eſcapyde dyvers watchys, & ſekynge for my lorde Graye hys lodgynge (which I dyde lerne to be withowt Porte Seynte Germeyne) I dyde gyve to the porter a cappe which I hade in my wallet to lette me owt at the gatte, & fyndyng my lorde Graye hys lodgynge I dyde lerne ther that he & all he (*ſic*) peaple wer departyde too dayes befor, & ſo retornyde into the cyttye agayne (at the ſame Gatte) by meanes that ſerteyne ryppares dyde come then to the cytty, & dyde call uppe the porter agayne & then I dyde walke the reſte of nyghte uppe & downe in the ſtrettes to ſeke wher I myghte be lodgyd & fyndynge a door oppen

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I enteryde but bycauſe I hade noo horſe I was refuyſſyd & ſo in dyvers other houſſes: but in ende beynge dyrectyde & guydyde to a wydowes houſſe (In Rue Sheckalle) I was reſayvyde & lodgyde, & beynge bothe hungry & colde I dyde praye to have ſumwhat for brekfaſt, which was ſheppes feete & whyt wynne a pleſente brekfaſte after a colde nyghtes travell. Clothes I coull have noone from the froperye bycauſe yt was hollydaye neyther was ther anye clothes to be hade in the houſſe bycauſe ther were noone but women too wydowes & ther too dowghteres. When we hade dynyde I was deſyrous to ſleppe, & woone of the wydowes appoyntyde me uppe into her owen chamber & to laye me downe uppone here dowghteres bede, & havynge lyen ther abowghte halfe ane ower ther dyde come into the houſſe ſerteyne Inquiſetores too

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ſerche for luteryanes. Oone of ther ſervantes lokynge into the chamber & ſeynge me lye uppone the bede dyde gooe downe & gyve them knowlege, wheruppone oone of them preſently dydecome uppe & walkynge twyſſe or thryſſe uppe & downe he callyd me to ryſſe & beynge ryſſen uppe he aſkyde me what I was, my name, frome whence I dyde come & what I dyde ther. I anſweryde that I was a Scotyſhmane, my name Robarte Robartſone & that I dyde come frome Scotlande throwghe Ingland & ſo dyrectly into France & the cauſe of my comynge thether was to ſarve & havynge bothe kynſmen & frendes in the Scotyſhe Garde I dyde hoppe by ther meanes to be prefaryde into that companye: & ſeynge me in my boottes & in my dublett & hoſſes, they aſkyde where my horſe was, & I anſweryde that bycauſſe my moneye was well waſtyde & a goode

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pryce offeryde I dyde ſell hyme at Bewoyſſe & dyde come frome thence on fotte: they aſkyde yf I hade noone other clothes & I anſweryde that bytwene Saynte Denyſſe & Parys I hade occatyone to unteye my poyntes & dyde delyver my ſworde & cloeke to my boye wyllynge hyme to goo befor, and when I hade doone my buſynes I dyde folowe & as yt ſemyde dyde take a wronge pathe, & ſo with longe ſekynge for hyme I was benyghtyde befor I coulde come into Parys. They marvelyde gretlye howe I dyde eſcappe frome beynge robyde & kyllyde with the theves & brygandes & dyde thynke verelye that my boye was kyllyde bycauſe he dyde not anſwer me when I halowyde & callyde lowde for hyme: with thes anſweres they ſemyde ſatyſfyede & departyde downe owt of the chamber & beynge belowe they

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injoynyde the woman of the houſſe to be before them the nexte at the conſergerye courte in the pallas. The poor woman knowynge that, beynge ther befor theme they wolde alege ſuche matter & craftye caſſes agaynſte here as ſhe ſhulde not eſcappe with leſſe charges then too Frenche crounes, & theruppone prayde theme to take me awaye with theme & dyſcharge here apperance, wheruppe here dowghter was ſente uppe to call me downe & at my comynge downe they ſayde I muſte goo with theme bycauſe the woman deſyryde theme to take me with theme. I aſkyde the cauſe & the woman ſayde that ſhe ſhulde be putte to grette chargys for my cauſſe: I ſayde thene unto the Inquyſſetores that yf theye dyde take me with theme & appoynte me to a goode lodgynge I ſhulde have cauſe to thanke theme & yf theye dyde euſſe

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me otherwyſſe my frendes, I was ſuer, wolde gyve the (*ſic*) ſmall thankes. And heruppone a ſergeante (attendynge uppone theme) dyde come unto theme & ſecretlye ſayd unto theme, as the woman dyde ſay unto me afterwarde, that I was noone [of] them that they hade comyſſyon to ſeke for and to aprehende, & that yf theye ſhulde take me with theme & comytte me to pryſone, & noo goode cauſe to fall owt whye to doo yt, my frendes or kynſmen in the Garde myghte make ſome quarelle & ſeke meanes to be revengyde of the injurye doone unto me: & theruppone they dyſchargyde the woman of here apperance & dyde leave me ſtyll in the houſſe injoynynge me to departe the nexte daye owt of the cyttye towardes the curte. I was glade to be ſo ryde of theme & dyde the mor quyetlye ſleppe all that after noone. After I hade well

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reſtyde I deſyryde the wyffe of the houſſe to provyde for my ſupper a Gygotteof muttone & a cappanette, & yf ſhe hade onye goode neyghbor that wolde be merye to deſyere hys companye to ſuppe with us which ſhe dyde performe, & he was a womanes feſytyon & a pleſante companyone & offeryde me grete curteſſye bothe to lodge me or to doo me any other pleſuer, which I thynke he wolde have doone in dede. Well I remaynyde with my hoſtes all that nyghte & the nexte mornynge I dyde ſende to the fryperye to furnyſhe myſelfe with ſuche apparell as was fytte for me & dyde buye a blake cloeke with ſleves & a payer of canvas ſloppes to cover my ſcarlette hoſſes & a ſworde. I dyde thene bynde uppe my berde with ane halfe kerchyffe & (after I hade brokyne my faſte) I dyde take my ſworde in hande

& dyde goo owt at adventuer into the cyttye onto Ponde molyne wher I dyde buye a Gyrdyll & dyde gyrde myſelfe with my ſworde & dyde walke all that day uppe & downe in the cyttye but moſte In the unyverſytte to ſe yf I coulde mette with Hance or ſome other Inglyſheman; & travellynge all the daye frome colledge to colledge demandynge for Scotyſhemen, I dyde at lengthe fynde a Frencheman (in a coledge) that dyde brynge me to a taylleres houſe wher wer lodgyde Martamfelde Mr. Doctor Caree (nowe of the chanſerye) & oone Goldynge a mane borne in Eye. I rewardyde the Frenchmane & remaynyde in the houſe ontyll Marcamfelde & Goldynge dyde come in; for Mr. Caree was goone to brynge my lorde Graye to Deappe in hys waye homwarde. I dyde dyſcover myſelf onto theme & after ſome ſmall

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tyme of ſpetche with theme Goldynge dyde remayne with me & Marcamfelde dyde goo abrode to ſeke & fynde Hance which he dyde & browghte hyme preſentlye onto me, & at hys comynge I ſaluttyde hyme as he was worthye, but in ende wee agreyde & ſo remaynyde ther all that nyghte. In the mornynge Goldynge with Hance dyde goo to my lodgynge to fetche my wallette with ſhyrtes & bookes & at ther returne, & after dyner, beynge Satyrdaye, they caryede me owt of the cyttye to a houſſe where Henrye Dudleye was lodgyde & where I founde a Callys womane namyde Mrs. Belle, a tryede womane at all thynges, wher I was well kepte for fyve dayes & hade verye goode enterteynemente & releaffe frome the ladye Portemarye, beynge thene in Parys. In thys tyme of my lyenge there Hance dyde prepare horſes for our Jorneye

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& oone the Thurſdaye wee departyde frome Parys to Saynte Jermynes: the nexte daye, as I remember, to Legyeſſe & frome thence, levynge Nantte, wee wente towardes Saynte Barbara (as pylgrymes) & in owr waye to a towne callyde Freboyſſe which Edwarde Horſeye hade in the Ryghte of hys wyffe, wher we founde a mane of hys namyde Watſone whoo guydyde us unto Cane in Normandye wher we founde Edwarde Horſye ſyke (& verye poore) in hys bede. We dyde come to Cane uppone Satyrdaye & departyde uppone the Mondaye to a lyttyll vylage ner the havene wher we hyrede a lyttyll boote for owr paſſage & uppone Thurſdaye in the Evenynge we enteryde the botte hopynge to have fallen uppone the coſte of Inglande the nexte daye betymes, but the wynde came contrarye & dyde blowe ſo ſtrongly as

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we wer put owt of owr courſe & ſo dryvene to gooe whether the wynde wolde dryve us, which was uppone the coſte of Bretaynye, wher the ſees ryſſe very heyghe; & beynge all the nyghte & daye ſore turmentyde & owr formaſte & ſayll blowen over the borde, owr mayne ſayll torne throue, aboughte the myde afternoone the wether begane to calme, & thene we, with ſuche thynges as we hade, amende owr ſaylles & dyde drawe theme uppe & put owrſelves under ſayll & withine an ower ſayllynge we dyde dyſcrye lande, & ſo bore with yt as (beynge nere nyghte) we dyde come under the ſyde (beynge a heye clyffe) we myghte dyſcover yt to be the Ill of Gearſſeye; & ſayllynge a lyttyll tyme under the clyffe the ſhyp boye (beynge ine the forſhyppe) dyſcoveryde the Rockes & cryede owt that [we] wer all loſte & with all, I remember, he cryede to praye

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[to] Saynte Barbara who was then a grette Saynte ine Normandye: & ſo ine a lyttyll tyme ſayllynge amongſte the Rockes, wee putte owte ane anker & dyde reſte ther all that nyghte. Ine mornynge very erllye we callyde uppe owr maryneres, for they wer lodgyde togyther in a cabane, but we dyde lye wette to the wether & thene dyde amende owr ſaylles, meanynge to gooe agayne to try our fortuenes ine the ſees, but whene the daye dyde appere wee myghte ſe dyveres peaple walkynge uppone the lande. Thene I was deſyrows to be landyde & therfor dyde cauſe the maryners to put the bootte nerar to the ſhore, but amongyſte the Rokes, ſo as, yf evell wether hade ryſſen we muſte have peryſhyde ther: Wee laye ther all the daye makynge ſuche weaffes & ſynges as we coulde, & whene yt dyd growe nere nyghte too mene ſeynge us ine that deſperatte

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plaſſe dyde come downe & aſkyde what we wolde have & what we dyde ine that dangerous plaſſe. We anſweryde that wee wolde wyllynglye come to lande: they appoyntyde us to retorne owr bootte backe agayne to ther havene which we hade myſſyde befor for lake of knowlege. I prayde theme to helpe me & Hance to lande, as they dyde uppone the Rockes frome oone to another, & whene I was uppone the dry ſandes, I knelyde downe & made a croſſe & dyde kyſſe yt gyvynge Gode thankes that we wer uppone Ingylſshe Grounde; & ſo by thos too men we were counductyde to the Toune & to a goode houſſe, wher I deſyryde to have a bede made & dyde goo into yt & dyde lye ther ontyll my ſhyrte & clothes wer dryede, & my ſupper made redye, & havynge ſuppyde I dyde ſpedylye goo agayne to bede to reſte me after ſo troblſome &

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werye a Jeorneye. The nexte daye after I hade dyſchargyde the boote & payde the hyere, I dyde hyere a guyde & horſes to brynge me to the caſtell, wher I dyde fynde Mr. Amyſſe Powlette for capteyne, & wher I remaynyde ontyll Wenſdaye & then dyde take ſhyppynge & aryvyde at Lyme in Dorſetſhyer uppone Thurſday, & Reſtynge ther a nyghte & halfe a daye I dyde take my Jorneye dyrectlye to Sir Johne Thynne hys houſſe ine Wyltſhyer, & aryvyde ther uppone the Satyrdaye which was as I remember the xijth daye of Octobere; wher I contynuyde with hyme ontyll after halomas & then dyde ryde with hyme to Londone, & after knowlege Gyven of my aryvall I was comandyde to be lodgyde the fyrſte nyghte at the Cheker in the Stronde, & the nexte daye order takene to lodge me ine the Tower; but Sir Johne Maſſone, beynge alwayſſe my Goode

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frende, movyde the counſell ſo muche ine my favor as they wolde lyke that hys houſſe myghte be my preſone ontyll ther myghte be tyme to brynge me to my tryall & arayngnemente uppone the Indytmente of heyghe treſſone founde agaynſte me in the tyme of Quene Mary and Reynge which in thende of mychelmas terme (Ine the ſeconde yere of here Mageſtes Raynge, & was proſecuttyde & tryede, with effecte ine the Guyldhall ine Londone, before the Lorde Mayer, Juſtyce Corbette & otheres in comyſſone whos names I doo not remembere Mr. Gerarde the Attorneye Generall wer ther to gyve Evydence agaynſte me which, by the Attorneye was doone as vehementlye as yf I hade deſervyde to be condempnyde, notwithſtandynge that he dyde knowe that the Quene here Mageſtye was fullye reſolvyde to pardone me.

I ſhuld fyrſte have ſhewyde that

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the ſame mornynge of my tryall I was appoyntyde by the leaftenante to be erllye at the Tower Gatte which I obſervyde, & at my comynge hee ſaluttyde me & beyng redye with the Garde & the axe of the Tower to be browghte after me, he dyde take me by the arme & dyde lede me frome the Tower to the Guyld-hall, wher we ſtayede ſome ſmall tyme for the Lorde Mayer & co-myſſyoners; when they were comen & ſette, the courte begon & Jurye callyde & ſworne all that fornoone beynge ſpente ine there Gyvynge of Evydence & of my anſweres & defence & the Jurye chargyde, the mayer with the comyſſyoners & the holl benche dyde goo to ther dyneres, the Lorde Mayer dyde ap-poynte a meſſe of meatte to be browghte to the leaftenante, wherof I dyde eatte but lyttyll, & yet un-quyetlye, bycauſe of the vehemente

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evydence gyven by the Attorneye. After dyner the mayer & comyſſoneres retornyde to the Guyldhall & imedyatlye dyde ſende to knowe yf the Jurye wer redye, and ine ſhorte tyme after they dyde come ine & beynge callyd partyculerlye by name I was thene callyd as befor & wyllyde to holde uppe my hande, the clarke of the peaſſe, after there apperance & holdynge uppe my hande, aſkyde theme yf theye wer agreyde & theye anſweryde yee; thene he aſkyde theme whoo ſhulde ſaye for theme, they anſweryde the forman; thene he aſkyde what they ſayde to the Treſonne wherof I was arayngnyde & whether I wer Gyltye, or not Gyltye whoo anſweryd not Gyltye, which movyde the peaplle to make grette noyſſe of Joye ine the hall & dyde muche rejoyſſe me althowghe I dyde weppe full bytterlye, as nowe

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ine thys wryttynge, yt makythe me to yelde ſome Teares. The Judge then callyde onto me meanynge to procede to Judgemente, but yt was longe befor I coulde call my ſpyrytts to be able to anſwer hyme which he dyde very curteuſlye bere & dyde incorage me not to be grevyde with the tryall for yt was appoyntyde by Gode to trye howe I could bere & induer adverſytte. Ine thys tyme of the Judge hys advyce & perſwaſyon I hade ſomwhat callyde my ſpyryttes onto me & dyde humblye beſeche hyme to geve me leave to make ſome Reſytall of my manye Trubles & adverſyttes in the loſſe of Callys, which he curteſlye grantyde onto me. I ſayde fyrſte that uppone the approtchyng of the Frenche armye I dyde as other dyde ſend awaye my wyffe & chylderne ſome ane waye & ſome a nother, which dyde not a bytte

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truble me, & thene havynge the charge of the bretche that they fyrſte dyde make which was repayryde ine the nyghte as they hade made bretche ine day wherin I was ine as grette perell as anye ine the toune but ſuche as were kyllyde. Indede whene the Toune was yeldyde I was takyne as pryſonere by Munſuer de Suaſſe, a provanſall. I loſte all my Goodes & landes one that ſyde the ſees. I was pryſſoner to Parys & remaynyde ther pryſoner ine the baſtyll xix. monthes & beynge delyveryde by Godes Grete Goodnes & helpe I dyde ſeke my beſte & ſureſte waye by Cane ine Normandye, wher takynge ſhyppynge for Inglande we fell into ſuche a ſtorme & tempeſte as I wyſhyde to be agayne in the pryſone, & nowe here I ame thys daye araynyde as a traytor, which wylbe a ſpotte ine my cootte whylles I lyve & a Re-

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protche when I ame dede: prayenge hyme & all the reſte to bere with me for I hade a trublede & a wether betten wytte & (thes longe wordes ende[d]) he procedyde to Judgmente with as gret curtes & confortable ſpetches as I coulde wyſhe or deſyer, & ſo dyde gyve comandmente unto the leatenante to dyſcharge me, payenge my fees; & ſo we dyde humblye take leave & departyde & the axe of the towere caryede home uppone hys ſhulder that dyde befor brynge yt upryghte with the Edge frome me warde; & ſo the leaftenante to gyve me leave to goo to my fyrſte pryſone at Sir Johne Maſſones wher hymſelfe & all the companye wer verye merye; but I coulde not ſo farre forgette mye truble & travell of that daye, for ine truthe ine herynge & anſwerynge what was ſayde & vehementlye objectyd agaynſte me I dyde ſwette as yf I

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hade travelyde ine a hotte ſomeres daye & her ane ende of thys Tragedye. Gode kepe all Goode men from the lyke.

A poſtſcrypte: After the dethe of Quene Marye Mounſuer Sepier ſente for me to dyne with hyme ine hys lodgynge ine the Turnelles, as he hade dyvers tymes done befor, wher he dyde dyſcover onto me the dethe of Quene Marye which I dyde ſhewe to take grevoſlye; he then enteryde into devyce & dyſcorſſe with me for a maryage bytwene the Quenes Mageſtye & the Dueke de Nemueres & he ſayde onto me that yf I woulde agree to hys demande for Ranſome, he wolde not dowghte, yf I wolde ſhewe myſelf dylygente & wyllynge to ſarve hyme ine the cauſe, to drawe the Kynge to paye yt for me & offeryde to gyve me leave to goo into Ing-

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lande uppone my faythe, to make proffe what I coulde doo & to retorne by a daye: I made hyme anſwer that, beynge unſerteyne of my Goode Eſtate & credytte ine thys Grette charge, I durſte not preſume nor enterprys into ſo wayghtye a Cauſſe: & as I dyde here my lorde Gray dyde enter into the ſame cauſe & dyd ſpede as well as I was lyke to doo.

Other acſydentes not nedfull to be nottyde or inſertyde ine thys ſymple tragedye, as of the Kynges dethe (at the tylte) by a blowe gyven by Mungomerye: of theſcape of Moundragone owt of my chamber, of fyve of the parlemente ſente to the baſtell by the Kynges owen comandmente, beynge there ine parſone, whereof de Bergye was one whome I dyde lave in a cadge withine a chamber & was after burnyde for Relygyon.

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[*Indorſed.*]

1594.

Soli deo honor et gloria
Non nobis domine non nobis, ſed nomini tuo damus gloriam.

This good oulde man beinge of the age of 92 died the xxiijth of Febr. 1599, Elizabeth A^{o} 42 in the after noone betweene 4 & 5 on a Saturnſ-day.

Via univerſi carnis mors.

Miſericordias domini in eternum cantabo.

On back of the firſt ſheet.

To my dowghter Grymeſtone at Bradfelde geve thes.

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LETTRES
DE MADAME DE MAINTENON À SA NIÈCE MADAME DE CAYLUS.

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THE following letters, addreſſed by Madame de Maintenon to M. le Maréchal de Villeroy, and to her niece, Madame de Caylus, were found by me amongſt ſome letters and papers belonging to my father, the late Gen. Sir Edward Bowater, but without any memorandum ſtating in what manner he became poſſeſſed of them. Of their genuineneſs there can be no doubt, as they have been carefully compared with thoſe of Madame de Maintenon's original letters preſerved in the Britiſh Muſeum. All that are entirely in her own handwriting bear a particular mark or cypher,

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which ſhe ſeems to have been in the habit of making upon all her letters, ſometimes inſtead of, ſometimes in addition to her ſignature, and alſo before the date. I have every reaſon to believe, after a prolonged ſearch, that theſe letters have never before been printed.

LOUISA M. KNIGHTLEY.

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LETTRES DE MADAME DE MAINTENON.

I.

a S[t] Cir 24 Juin 1705.

JAUOIS eſperé vous voir aujourd huy ma chere nieyce mais ie ſuis touchée d'une ſi grande recognoiſſance pour Me. d Augeau qui eſt a la campagne pour une noce de ma façon que je n'ai pu me reſoudre a faire ſans elle un voyage dont elle ſe fait depuis long temps un grand plaiſir je voudrais bien que ce puſt eſtre mercredi, vous en ſerez advertie bien regulierement, au reſte ie ne puis vous fournir de commiſſions ſans me ruiner, et encore faut

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il quelqu'intervalle dans la depence ie me ſouviens bien que M. de Tiberge m'a fait donner malgré moy quelque choſe a M^lle^ de Baillou mais le Roy ni eſt pas entré la pauvre Timecour me fait grand pitié adieu ma chere nieyce, le Duc de Noailles ne ſe porte guieres mieux et ſa femme eſt groſſe dont ie ſuis bien aiſe par plus d'une raiſon. Le Roy eſt tout a fait gueri, M. la D. de Bourgogne eſt mieux et moy fort bien—n'eſt ce pas tout ce que vous voulez ſauoir de Verſailles ——— ou pour mieux dire de la cour, car on ne ſait plus ou la prendre.

II.

1704.

Il ny a point de nouvelles d'Allemagne les choſes y ſont toujours au meſme eſtat ceſt a dire que les armées

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ſont en preſence on croit que celles des ennemis ſouffrent faute de fourage on dit que Monſieur de Marlborough a un grand rhumatiſme qui lempeche de pouvoir monter a cheval il luy arrive tous les jours des troupes, le marechal de Vileroi en envoye auſſy a Monſieur de Vilars et Monſieur de Marcier de meſme La priſe. . . . neſt pas une nouvelle bien importante, mais il eſt toujours bon de prendre ce que lon attaque, il y avoit quatorze cents hommes dedans qui ſont priſonniers de guerre voila ma chere niece tout ce que ie ſait ie me porte fort bien je ſerois ravie que la pauvre Timecour ſe trouvaſt innocente nous avons icy Madame des Urſins, qui pretend partir Samedi pour l'Eſpagne, c'eſt avoir du courage en leſtat ou elle eſt, le Roi marche bien on le purge aujourd'huy je mhabille pour aller le trouver et c eſt ce qui mempeche de vous

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eſcrire moi meſme, ie maccoutume fort au plaiſir de vous voir jeſpere aller bientoſt diner avec vous.

Madame
Madame la conteſſe de Quelus.

III.

a S^t^ Cir ce 22 Aouſt 1707.

Le Roy a la goutte et M. le D. de B. la fievre je ſuis venüe diner icy et ie m en retourne vous eſtes raiſonnable ma chere nieyce et ie men reſiouis avec vous Nous n'aurons plus que des comerces agréables. Mandés moi des nouvelles de cette famille que ie vous ai recommandée i en ai gardée une idée très miſerable il ne faut pas que ie paroiſſe mais il ne faut pas non plus qu elle manque ie me porte aſſez bien au milieu de toutes nos peines ie vous embraſſe de tout mon cœur Que

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vous eſtes ſage de tout abandonner a Dieu ſans tant de preuoyances, elles ſont bien innutiles Nous ne ſavons ni ce que nous voulous ni ce que nous faiſons, et il paroiſt ſouvent que Dieu ſe plaiſt a renverſer nos arrangements. A chaque iour ſuffit ſon mal vous eſtes bien heureuſe de penſer de ſi bonne heure comme vous penſés.

Faittes confidence de ma reſolution a tous nos proches.

IV.

17 Novembre 1708.

Voſtre eſtat eſt bien facheux mais la plus part des fievres de cette année ont eſté de meſme il ne doit point ce me ſemble vous empeſcher de venir ſi cella conivent a vos autres affaires Nous vous trouverions toute eſtablie au retour de Marli il faut bien vous accoutumer aux medecins de la cour

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vous feriez la voſtre au Duc de Bretagne et Me de Villefort vous feroit la ſienne Envoyés moy ou apportés moy vingt deux aunes de damas noir Vous ſaués que je ne me ſoucie point du tout du deſſein pourvu qu'il ſoit bien noir ie voudrois qu'il ne coutaſt que dix ou onze fran. Ma petite fieuvre eſt revenüe, et me retient aujourd'huy a Verſailles ou ie vous ſouhaitterois bien entre Me. d'Hendicour et moy, adieu tout me fatigue et ie ſuis contrainte de finir cette lettre.

v.

a S[t] Cir ce 6 Juin.

Eſtes vous guerie ma chere nieyce, pourriés vous venir diner icy mercredi, mandés le moy un peu plus promptement que l'autre fois et ne prenés pas les gens de M. le Duc

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d'Harcourt Eſt ce que la poſte n'eſt pas regulière Le Roy eſt allé a Marli, il ne marche pas mais il ſe porte bien, Voſtre Princeſſe n'eſt pas de meſme, et ſi ioſe parler de moy apres de telles perſonnes, ie me porte aſſez bien, et i'en ſuis contente. Je vous embraſſe.

I'ai vu des robes d enfants fort honneſte a 20 f. la piece.

VI.

de Marli ce 9e Mai 1707.

Non ma chere niece ie ne ſaurai me reſoudre a de la broderie et ſy vous ne pouvez trouver ce q̃ ie demande envoyez moi ce q̃ vous pouvez, il neſt pas poſſible que ie ſoit la ſeule vieille dans le monde prenez ce que vous pouvez, pourvu que ie ne ſois pas ridicule et que ce ſoit un habit brun et leger Sy vous navez q̃ lavoye

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de Galpin ceſt une petite reſſource et a laquelle jirois tout droit ſy ie ne ſavois par pluſieurs experiences quil n'a jamais rien de ce quon lui demande pourquoi vous preſſez vous tant pour une commiſſion dont ie ne ſuis point du tout preſſée le Roy va de mieux en mieux mais ie croi que nous en avons bien encore icy pour huit jours ie ſuis ſouvent incommodée mais je vais toujours.

MAINTENON.

VII.

Samedy au ſoir.

Vous avez reſpondu a voſtre ordinaire ſur Me. d Hendicour, c'eſt a dire tres bien je ſerois fort aiſe de la voir la difficulté eſt de ſe joindre.

Le R. m a demandé ſi Mr. et Me. de Courcillon ſongent a aller a Marli et cela d un ton peu obligeant pour

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eux. je luy ai dit que je ne le ſavais pas ſi nous pouvions ne les pas avoir nous en ſerions tous plus en repos il ne faut pas qu'ils viennent ſe mettre en poſſeſſion d'un logement pour ſen aller huit jours apres.

Me. de Dangeau m'a déclaré ſerieuſement un voyage de huit jours a Dangeau quelque temps apres que nous ſerons arrivés a Marli.

Je ne voy perſonne plus aſſurée deſtre choiſie que Me. de Pompadour Elle en ſait plus que les autres.

Me. la Ducheſſe de Berri tache des aujourd huy a eſtablir un jeu chez elle il ni aura pas la moindre interruption a ſon merite Elle ſe propoſe de ſuivre le Roy partout. On veut de preference a tout que les dames montent a cheval pour des chaſſes et des cavalcades continuelles je meurs de peur que vous trouvant ſur le grand chemin ou ne vous face galoper avec les autres.

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Ne penſés pas a moy ce ſoir je vois le dos du ſecretaire d eſtat de la guerre et le petit ſinge que vous cognoiſſés, le Roy ſon maiſtre ſe plaint de la migraine qui eſt pourtant ſur la fin il a le meilleur viſage du monde.

Conſerués vous pour demain au ſoir je ſuis desja inquiette de ce que vous ſerés dans douze jours ſur le temps de craindre la caroſſe.

Je m imagine que vous verrés ce ſoir voſtre chere couſine je crains bien de ne la pouvoir embraſſer avant demain au ſoir encore n en ſuis je pas trop aſſurée, le teſte a teſte eſtant difficile ſurtout pour mes parens.

Bon ſoir ma chere niece vous ne pouués me faire un plus grand plaiſir que de vous bien porter ſi vous auiéz le moindre mal demain i aimerais mieux que vous manquaſſiés la muſique que le diner de la maiſon que nous devons faire lundy.

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VIII.

A fontainebleau ce 12 Octobre 1705.

Il y a quinze jours que je me porte parfaitement bien et je ſort maintenant d un acces de fièvre qui me reprit hier au ſoir ceſt cette inégalité de ma ſanté qui me fait prier mes amies de ne ſen pas mettre en peine car ils ne peuvent jamais ſavoir letat veritable ou ie ſuis et ie trouve ma maladie auſſi importune pour eux que pour moi les gens de bien veulent toujours mettre des filles dans les communeautés je ne ſuis pas ſi perſuadée qu eux qu elles y ſoient en ſureté cependant jenverrés a Gomer fontaine ſi vous le voulés la fille dont vous me parlés j aime a multiplier le bien et cette maiſon a beſoin de penſionnaires pour lui aider a ſubſiſter ſi vous prenés ce parti il ni aura que l envoier tel quelle ait avec une belle exortation de votre

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façon de ſi bien conduire ſi elle y veut demeurer et de ne ſattacher uniquement qua l abbeſſe je ſuis ravie ma chere niece de vous voir en comerce de bonnes œuvres avec M^r. le Cure de St. Sulpice au reſte votre preſent me ruine mes geans veulent abſolument qu il paroiſſe et augmante mon fruit malgré que j en ait ie le verrai a la fin du moi ie vous embraſſe de tout mon cœur.

Madame
Madame la Conteſſe de
Quélus-rue de
Vaugirard
a Paris.

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LETTRES
DE MADAME DE MAINTENON À MONSIEUR LE MARÉCHAL DE VILLEROY.

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LETTRES DE MADAME DE MAINTENON.

I.

à Marli jeudy 23, 7bre 1706.

CE n'eſt pas a ceux qui voyent les choſes de prés d'eſcouter le public—je ſai Monſieur le dechainement contre M. Chamillart mais cela ne peut rien ſur moy; je ne diſconvient pas qu'il n'aye deſiré le ſiege de Thurin, que le Roy ne ſi ſoit oppoſé, que l on ait voulu y envoyer Mr. de Vauban, que Mr. de la Feuillade ni aye fait bien des fautes, qu'il n'euſt eſté plus a propos d en charger un autre plus experimenté &c. je ſai tout cella comme vous Monſieur, et je

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ſai auſſy que le Roy ne s'eſt rendu qu'aux raiſons et aux inſtances de M. le P. de Vendoſme quand il vint icy je ſai encore tout ce que vous avéz fait et tout ce que vous avés dit ſur ce ſiege, l'evenement ne vous juſtifie que trop M. Chamillart n'eſt pas cauſe de ce malheureux denoüement, et quoy que vous vous declariés ſon ennemi, je ſuis aſſurée que vous ne ſoupçonnés pas ſes intentions, il n'eſt plus queſtion du paſſé parlons de l'advenir. Pourquoy vous dechainés vous contre un homme dont le Roy ſe ſert, et pouves vous deſaprouver ce que le miniſtre fait ſans blamer celuy qui lui donne les ordres. je ſuis perſuadée Monſieur que vous eſtes attaché au Roy, et vous ſeriéz tres ingrat ſi vous ne l'eſtiés pas, mais ne deviés vous pas vous borner a lui dire, ou a luy eſcrire, ou a luy faire ſauoir par moy, ce que vous croyéz pouvoir eſtre vtile a ſon ſer-

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uice. On dit que vous formés une cabale contre M. Ch. que vous vous ioignés a ſes ennemis, que vous faittes parler a des gens de merite pour les faire entrer dans vos interets, et beaucoup d'autres choſes que ie ne ſaurois croire, et que ie ſerois rauie que vous vouluſſiez deſavoüer, pour ce qui me regarde il eſt peu important d'en rien dire, vous me cognoiſſés parfaittement ie n ai de liaiſons que pour le Roy j aime ceux qui lui ſont fidellement et droittement attachés, vous le ſaués je voudrois le conſoler, ie voudrois ſoutenir ceux qui le ſeruent il ne conuient pas au bien des affaires de decrier ceux qui en ſont chargés je vous croy Monſieur aſſez honneſte homme pour depoſer vos reſſentimens contre Mr. Chamillart dans un temps comme celui cy, et pour ne ſonger qu'a excuſer les fautes, a propoſer des remedes, a relever les

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eſperances, et a tenir les diſcours qui conuiennent au Roy, je vous ay vü dans des ſentimens auſſy epurés que ceux cy, je cognois le ridicule que les courtiſans y trouueroient, mais ie ne croy pourtant point que la vertu ne ſoit qun nom Ceſt lopinion que iay de la voſtre qui m'a donné tout ce que iay pour vous.

II.

Le 4 Octobre 1706.

Mr. Amelot a mandé qu Orry ne devoit pas retourner en Eſpagne dans la conjoncture preſente et que ceſtoit avec la participation de M. la Pr. des Vrſins qu'il prenoit cette reſolution Le Roy ſen eſt rapporté a eux ie nen ſai pas davantage.

Me. la Pr. des Vrſins m'a eſcrit un aſſez long article ſur Orry quelle veut que ie vous faie voir croyant

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que nous nous entretenons tous les iours. Cet article n'eſt autre choſe que de s'expliquer ſur les raiſons quelle a eües de deſirer cet homme quand elle l'a demandé, et ſur lindifference quelle a ſur ſon retour en Eſpagne quand un ambaſſadeur comme Mr. Amelot le iuge dangereux Elle finit cet article en m'aſſurant quelle ne ſe ſeparera pas de Mr. Amelot, je voulois Monſieur le faire copier et vous lenvoyer je ne lai pu par leſtat de ma ſanté.

Il me ſemble que voſtre derniere lettre n'eſt qune replique a la mienne ou il ny a rien a repondre.

Je ſouffre encore, et ie ſens avec beaucoup de recognoiſſance Monſieur ce que vous me dittes ſur mon mal.

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III.

Le 20 Octobre 1706.

Ce que vous dirés a Orry, et ce que vous eſcrirés a M. la Pr. des Vrſins ne peut iamais rien gaſter Monſieur vos intentions ſont droittes et vous ſavéz de quoy il eſt queſtion Quelle faute pourriés vous faire et de quelle miſſion avéz vous beſoin je nentens plus parler de vos projets de cabale iay veu auec plaiſir que vous les deſauoües je nai point eü de peine de ce que vous m'auez mandé et vous ne vous brouillerés pas auec moy par me parler librement je ne pourrois voir M. L. de Cologne quand ie le voudrois je vous rends mil graces de me [1] lanvir ſauvé jaurois beſoin de plus grands ſoulagemens. Que penſés vous entre nous ſur rentrer en Italie je nai pas la force de vous en dire dauantage.

Monſieur
Monſieur le Marechal de Villeroy.

[1] Sic in the original.

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IV.

a St. Cir ce 22 Oct. 1706.

Je ſuis Monſieur dans une grande foibleſſe et qui m'empeſche deſcrire de ma main ceſt ce qui eſt cauſe que ie nai pas pluſtoſt repondu a la derniere lettre que vous m'auéz fait lhoneur de meſcrire je voulois auſſy la faire voir, ce que ie nai pu qu'hier au ſoir. On la trouvée telle qu'elle eſt bien iuſte, bien claire et bien raiſonnée.

Je croy Monſieur qu' Orry vous a dit vray en tout, M. Amelot et M. la P. des Vrſins parlent le meſme langage et ie ne doutte pas (comme vous lavés dit) que le Roy ne renvoye M. Orry en Eſpagne des que lambaſſadeur et Me. des Vrſins le demanderont. On leur a iuſques icy tenu bien exactement la parole que le Roy leur donna en les renvoyant et on ne fait pas la moindre

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choſe que ſur leurs advis. De leur coſté ils ſont parfaittement unis, et ſi les affaires ne vont pas mieux ceſt par leur propre fonds et par nos malheurs, car pour la maniere de les conduire il ni a rien de plus facile.

J'aurois bien de la peine Monſieur a trouver la lettre de Me la P. des Vrſins que vous me demandés jen ai receu pluſieurs ou elle me parle dOrry, et touſiours ſur le meſme ton Elle la voulu en Eſpagne quand elle a creu qu'il eſtoit neceſſaire pour les affaires des deux roys, et pour inſtruire parfaittement lAmbaſſadeur Quil le leſt preſentement autant qu Orry, et que c'eſt a lui a iuger ſi cet homme luy eſt vtile ou s'il ne leſt pas Que pour elle ſon ſeul but eſt le ſervice, quelle ni a point dautre intereſt.

Je ne voy rien a mander a M. la P. des Urſins que des loüanges le Roy

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en eſt content en tout et par tout, et quand a moy elle peut compter que ie ſuis attentive a tout ce qui la regarde ſa droiture me charme.

Je comprens la triſteſſe de voſtre ſiſtuation Monſieur il ni a que la paix que puiſſe nous faire oublier toutes nos peines.

v.

a St. Cir. ce 6 Novem. 1706.

Voſtre trop grande bonté pour repondre aux affaires que je prens la liberté de vous envoyer m'en empeſchera a lauenir ie ne ſai ce que ceſt que M. de la Chambre ceſtoit une ſimple charité de vous renvoyer ſon plaçet.

Mr. l'Eveſque de Poitiers Monſieur m'a eſcrit les meſmes choſes qu'a vous ſur ſon intendent iai montré ſa lettre a Mr. de Chamillart qui m'a paru bien diſpoſé pour luy.

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Quand on me dit Monſieur que vous vous dechainés continuellement et publiquement contre M. Chamillart ie repons Si cella eſtoit vrai Mr. le Maréchal de Villeroy auroit grand tort, car il ne convient point qu un homme auſſy bien avec le Roy qu'il y eſt ſe dechaiſne contre un miniſtre auſſy bien avec ſon maiſtre que Mr. Chamillart.

Voilà Monſieur ce que ie penſe, et que ie puis avoir dit—il y a bien longtemps qu'on ne m'a parlé de vous, j'ai peu de comerces, St. Cir depuis ſix heures du matin iuſques a ſix du ſoir et le Roy et Me. la P. de Bourgogne dans ma chambre juſques a dix, ne me laiſſent guieres de temps pour entretenir les particuliers, je ne ſuis point changée pour vous Monſieur, et iai adiouſté a leſtime que iai touſiours cüe, vne tres grande ſenſibilité pour vos malheurs.

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VI.

a St. Cir ce 2 Janvier 1707.

Ma reponce a la lettre que vous me faittes lhoneur de meſcrire Monſieur n'eſt guieres preſſée, ceſt pourquoy iai laiſſé paſſer ces derniers iours ſi remplis de complimens jai ſi peu de capacité pour les affaires et ien ai entendu parler ſi tard, que ie nai aucune cognoiſſance des malheurs qui peuuent nous arriuer mais ie ſai parfaittement bien les craindre tous, et ien ſeiche veritablement je nai rien a dire Monſieur ſur la pretendue ignorance du Roy par rapport a leſtat ou il ſe trouve puiſque vous ſauéz vouſmeſme qu'il en eſt bien inſtruit, il faut compter que tout le monde a tort quand les choſes vont mal et prendre patience ſur les mauvais diſcours vous me faittes fort bien voir Monſieur le danger ou nous

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ſommes, mais y voiés vous des remedes je ſuis perſuadée que votre zele pour le Roy et pour leſtat vous les fera propoſer toutes les fois que vous en pourrés enviſager je nai pu comprendre encore ce que ceſt que les billets de monnoye ie ne puis croire que tout ce qui ſe fait la deſſus ne ſoit pas conſulté a bien des financiers jai ouy dire qu'on demande Orry en Eſpagne, mais Me. des Vrſins ne men parle pourtant point iugés Monſieur par ce qu'on dit de vous la deſſus de la fauſſeté de la plus part des choſes qui nous reuiennent de tous coſtés nous ſommes tous a plaindre.

VII.

30 Juillet 170..

Ce n'eſt point par vengeance du rendé vous ou vous auéz manqué Monſieur que ie vous prie de trouuer

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bon que ie ne vous en donne qu'au retour de Marli ceſt veritablement que ie ne le puis. On fait a St. Cir le viſitte et le lection ce ſont les plus grandes affaires des couuents et iay un rhume qui me met hors deſtat de parler. Si vous auiéz quelque choſe a me dire auant ce temps la Monſieur ie vous ſupplie de me leſcrire voſtre zele eſt trop ſincere pour ſe rebutter et vous en donnés ſouuent des marques.

Monſieur
Monſieur le Marechal de Villeroy.

VIII.

a Verſailles ce 23 Octobre 1708.

Je vous aſſure Monſieur qu'il ni a point eü de temps ou ieuſſe eſté plus touchée que ie le ſuis de la continuation de vos malheurs, vous perdés la ſeule conſolation qui vous reſtoit,

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et il ſemble que Dieu veut vous forcer a en chercher en luy Soiés perſuadé ie vous en ſupplie de la part ſincere que ie prens a voſtre douleur trop iuſte et trop bien fondée, et que ie ſerai toute ma vie Monſieur voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſeruante

MAINTENON.

Permettés moy de faire icy mes complimens a Monſieur le Duc et a Me. la Ducheſſe de Villeroy.

A Monſieur
Monſieur le Marechal de Villeroy.

IX.

16 Juillet 1707.

Ce ne'ſt pas aſſez daprouuer la lettre que vous maués envoyée Monſieur elle merite des louanges il me ſemble quelle touche tous nos malheurs ſans trop de plaintes et quelle

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en reiette la cauſe ſur les fleaux de Dieu pluſtot que ſur la faute des hommes je lai envoyée mandés moy touſiours Monſieur ce qui en vaudra la peine. Ceſt un grand bonheur que celuy de remplir ſes devoirs et de n'avoir rien a ſe reprocher.

A Monſieur
Monſieur le Maréchal de Villeroy.

X.

4 juillet 1709.

Je ſuis rauie Monſieur que vous m'aſſuriés que je puis reſpirer pendant le ſiège de Tournai jen ai un grand beſoin je ne ſuis pas aſſez ſeure de moy pour vous donner un rendé vous pendant que vous eſtes a Paris il vaut mieux Monſieur attandre que vous ſoiés à Verſailles je ſai une patrie des ſots diſcours de Paris ie

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crains qu'ils ne nuiſent a voſtre ami quelque mal fondés qu'ils ſoient mais vous ſaués Monſieur qu'il a beſoin de credit du reſte on ne peut trop admirer ce qu'il fait et ie ſuis perſuadée que ſi nous auions une lueur de bonheur, il nous remettrait ſur pied, faittes moi la juſtice Monſieur de me regarder tous iours comme voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſervante.

MAINTENON.

XI.

de St. Cyr ce 26 Juillet 1709.
Vandredy.

Quelques triſtes que ſoyent nos rendez vous Monſieur le Marechal je ne puis vous en refuſer, et ie vous attendray demain a cinq heures et demie ches Md. de Caylus ou nous n'aurons rien a nous dire de bon.

MAINTENON.

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XII.

A Marly ce 5 Aout 1709.

Voſtre memoire Monſieur a eſté trouvé excellent, faut il que ie vous le renvoye, ce n'eſt que pour vous le demander que i'ay lhonneur de vous écrire ce mot etant dans mon lit avec une maniére de medecine je vous aſſure Monſieur que ie vois parfaitement letat ou nous ſommes, et qu'il n'eſt ignoré de perſonne.

MAINTENON.

Cette lettre eſt ſignée par M^e^. de Maintenon mais non écrite par elle.

XIII.

10 Aouſt 1709.

Il me ſemble Monſieur que vous m'auéz mandé de vous renvoyer la lettre de M. la Pr. des Urſins, la

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pauvre femme achepte et acheptera la ſuitte des perſonages Elle me fait grand pitié et iay peine a comprendre lacharnement et la perſeverance de ſes ennemies Elle trouvera de la conſolation en vous.

XIV.

a St. Cir ce 20 Aouſt 1709.

Le pauvre des Marais eſt mort et Mr. de Chartres a obtenu le regiment de la Fereere pour un autre nepueu fils de M. de Liſle qui ſert en eſpagne Quand le Roy nen auroit pas ainſy diſpoſé ie ne luy aurois pas demandé pour Mr. d'Aubigné car i ignore ce qui conuient a un homme comme luy, et ſi vous n'auez la bonté de le proteger il pourra bien malgré ſon nom, ne pas faire grand chemin Vous auriéz de la peine a perſuader au Roy que les loüanges que vous

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luy donnés ſoient ſinceres il arriuera la deſſus comme en toute autre choſe ce qui plaira a Dieu, mais ie vous aſſure Monſieur que ce ieune gentilhomme a tres grand beſoin de vous, et que ie puis plus lui nuire que le ſeruir j admire les bontés dont vous lhonorés, dont ſa famille eſt viuement touchée de recognoiſſance ie vais envoyer voſtre lettre a M. G. Eu de Noyou qui en ſera raui.

Mr. de Tallard a paſſé, Verceil eſt pris, tout nous reüſſit, mais nous ſommes ſi mal que rien ne nous guerit, je tremble preſentement pour larmée naualle qui eſt inférieure à celle des ennemis.

Le Roy a eſté incomodé depuis quatre iours dun deſuoyement qui reuiendra ſelon toutes les aparances ſil ne diminüe vn peu de ſes ſoupers il eſt difficile de viure a ſoixante cinq ans comme on faiſoit a quarante Mr. le grand veut manger une fricaſſée

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en attandant le friſſon vous eſtes bien heureux deſtre ſobre ayant eü de ſi mauuais exemples.

Noſtre Ducheſſe de Bourgogne commence a ſe remettre Le Roy la charmée par la reception qui luy a fait a Marli vn feu de ioye vne muſique toute pour elle, des preſens par les douze pauillons qui offroient chaqun quelque choſe, et tout cella avec le gouſt et la magnificence du Roy Si vous auiez eſté icy vous auriez ſeu mieux que les autres le faire valoir.

La gouuernante des enfans de France fait merueille, et tout le monde en eſt content excepté Me. ſa mere qui en eſt ialouſe ceſt le ſecret de cette cour la.

Adieu Monſieur le Maréchal ie ne puis vous dire combien ie vous eſtime, combien ie vous honore, et combien ie deplore qu'il y ait ſi peu a hommes comme vous, ie voit de trop pres combien le Roy eſt mal

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ſerui, les bons ſuiets ſont trop rares vous aimés l'eſtat, vous aimés la perſonne du Roy, vous aimés le bien, vous allés droit, vous parlés ſincerement, vous eſtes ſans intereſt et ſans cabale, vous ſeriez parfait ſi vous eſtiez pieux je vous dis tout ce qui me vient a la teſte.

XV.

a St. Cir ce 24 September 1709.

Je receus vn paquet de Me. la princeſſe de Urſins etant icy qui m' anonçoit la paix avec Mr. de Savoye, et vn memoire qui nous fourniroit de largent pour ſoutenir la guerre autant que nous le voudrions, et tout cela envoyé par vn courrier.

Je ne compris point qu'il en falloit faire vn miſtére et je le dis au Roy en metonnant ſeulement

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que ce memoire vous eut eté renvoyé.

Le Roy me repondit qu'il ny avoit rien ſur la paix avec Mr. de Savoye, et quaparament vous envoyeriez le memoire a Mr. des Maretz mais tout cela avec ſy peu de confiance et dattention qu'on ny a pas penſé depuis.

Je mettonnois Monſieur que vous m'en diſſiez rien mais je compris que vous nauiez pas fait beaucoup de cas de ce memoire et que vous lauriez mandé ainſy a Me. la P. des Urſins.

Il eſt vrai que les grands evenemens qui ſont arrives depuis ce tems la m'ont empeché dy penſer, je lenvoyerai a Mr. des Maretz puis que vous le voulez quelque peine que j'ay a lui prendre le tems qu'il faudra pour le lire etant auſſi accablé qu'il l'eſt.

J'ay entretenu Mr. Amelot, ſa converſation me confirme dans toute

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leſtime que iavois pour luy et pour Mme. la Princeſſe des Urſins, je leur conſerveray cette miſerable reſſource, et ſy le monde leur fait injuſtice, ils auront cela de commun avec bien d'honnetes gens.

Le depart du Roy d'Eſpagne pour aller iondre ſon armée a changé le plan de Me. la Princeſſe des Urſins, elle n'a pu refuſer de demeurer auprés de la Reyne, et en vérité il y auroit eu de la cruauté de la laiſſer ſeule en letat en elle eſt, je ne comprens pas même qu'elle puiſſe jamais la quitter a moins que leurs Majeſtes Cattoliques conſentiſſent elle y eſt attachée par le cœur, ils ſeront ſelon toutes les aparances bien malheureux, et elle eſt trop genereuſe pour ne pas finir ſa vie avec eux.

J'ay bien penſé a vous Monſieur a la promotion de Mr. le M^{al} d'Artaignan car ie ſai le cas que

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vous en faites depuis long tems, et combien vous vous eſtes oppoſé a ſes ennemis.

J'ay partagé d'une autre ſorte ce que vous avez ſenti a la mort de Mr. de Palavinchin et a letat ou demeure Me. ſa femme.

Je vous renvoye Monſieur la lettre de Me. la Princeſſe des Urſins, et quand Mr. des Maretz maura rendu le memoire je vous le renvoyerai de même.

Croyez Monſieur qu'en quelque humeur et qu'en quelque etat que je ſois je ſuis toujours egalement voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſervante

MAINTENON.

Cette lettre eſt ſignée par Madame de Maintenon, mais non écrite par elle.

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XVI.

ce 24 Janvier 1710.

J'ay leu Monſieur voſtre belle et tres belle lettre à Me. la Pr. des Urſins, elle eſt bien propre à la conſoler, et a la ſoutenir mais elle eſt ſi advantageuſe pour moy que ie ne croy pas la deuoir mettre dans mon pacquet ou pourroit me ſoupçonner de lauoir quemandée, M. de Torcy ſeroit auſſy eſtonné de la grandeur du paquet.

Il ni a rien de plus raiſonnable Monſieur que tout ce que vous me faittes lhoneur de me mander ſur la paix je la voy deſirer ſi ſincerement que ie ne puis croire qu'on agiſſe differenment et d'autant plus que ceux qui ſont chargés des ordres pour y trauailler la ſouhaittent eux-meſmes bien ardanment.

Quand a mettre les gens a portée

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doſer me dire la vérité je vous aſſure Monſieur qu'on ne me la cache pas jeſſuye tout ce que le zele, laffection, lintereſt, la iuſtice, la raiſon, le chagrin, laigreur peuuent inſpirer On me dit tout ce qu'on noſerait dire a dautres je ne vis que d amertume, trop heureuſe ſi ce que ie ſouffre pouuoit eſtre de quelque vtilité.

XVII.

à Verſailles ce 17 Fevrier 1710.

Me. la princeſſe des Urſins m'a envoyé la copie de pluſieurs lettres de Mr. de Bergueilh qui mont paru ſi vives et ſi fortes pour la faire ſortir d'Eſpagne que toute ma ſimplicité n'a pu m'empeſcher de ſoubconner qu'il eſt excité par les ennemis de noſtre, amie elle me demande vn

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conſeil poſitif ſur ce qu'il faut qu' elle faſſe, j'en ay parlé au Roy que j'ai trouvé dans les meſmes diſpoſitions ou il a eſté depuis que cette affaire la dure, il ſe remet a ſa prudence et a ſon ſincere attachement pour le Roy et la Reyne d'Eſpagne pour prendre la reſolution qu' elle croira leur convenir non ſeulement Mr. de Bergueich veut qu'elle quitte l'Eſpagne mais que ce ſoit de ſy loin qu'on ne puiſſe jamais la ſoubçonner dy vouloir revenir, elle me parait embaraſſée du party quelle prendra ſy elle en ſort, le pouvoir des Allemans dans Rome la degoute dy penſer, elle na pas un ſol, et beaucoup de dettes, elle me prie de demander a Mr. des Maretz quelque partie des vingt mil ecus qui lui ſont dus, jugez Monſieur ſy ie le puis faire, je crois que letat ou nôtre amie ſe trouve vous paroitra auſſy triſte qu'a moy je noſerois la deſirer icy, elle y

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feroit une mauvaiſe figure, et je luy crois trop de bon ſens pour vous expoſer mais je ne ſay que luy dire, je penſe comme vous Monſieur ſur la paix, il faut paſſer par deſſus tout, mais je crains que nous ne puiſſions y parvenir, je ſuis dans une ſi grande foibleſſe que je nay pu ecrire de ma main comme cela marrive ſouvent preſentement il vaut mieux vous prier de le ſouffrir que de vous en faire des excuſes.

MAINTENON.

XVIII.

20 Fevrier 1710.

Je ne puis qu'aprouver et admirer la lettre que ie viens de lire, vous parlez en veritable amy et montrez avec bien de la delicateſſe ce qu'on doit faire, et les duretes aux quelles on ſe voit expoſé tout ce que je vois

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de vous Monſieur augmente mon eſtime, et redouble l'envie que jaurois de vous voir plus heureux, je nay par la force de vous en dire davantage.

MAINTENON.

Ces deux lettres ſont ſignées par M^de^. de Maintenon, mais non écrites par elle.

XIX.

à Verſailles ce 15 Mars 1710.

Je vous envoye Monſieur les lettres que iay receus hier de Me. la Princeſſe des Urſins vous verez dans celles qui ſont pour moi une aigreur que vous ſavez que ie ne merite pas mais qui ne m'empeſche point deſtre veritablement touchée de l'eſtat ou elle ſe trouve, les lettres qu'on receut hier d' holande, et qui ne nous permettent

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plus d'eſperance pour la paix ſont trouver quelle ſe preſſe trop d'abandonner leurs Majeſtés Catholiques, comment pouvois je en cas quelle les quitte luy donner vn bon conſeil ſur le parti qu'elle auroit a prendre, celuy qu'elle projettoit de demeurer a Paris en attendant que l'on vit ce que deviendroit l'eſpagne me paroiſſoit le meilleur pour rejoindre la Reyne en cas qu'elle fut obligée de ſe retirer en France il me paroit que voſtre amie veut ſe conformer aux conſeils de Mr. de Bergueich et ſeloigner au point de ne jamais revoir ny le Roy ny la Reyne elle eſt trop glorieuſe et trop ſenſée pour venir faire un mauvais perſonnage à Verſailles, celuy de vivre en particulière a Paris avec Mr. ſon frere paroitrait le plus doux mais il ne ſeroit pas ſans quelque inconvenient, ayez la bonté de me renvoyer mes lettres avant Lundy afin que je puiſſe luy repondre,

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je nay pas le courage Monſieur de vous rien dire de plus.

MAINTENON.

Cette lettre eſt ſignée par M^me^ de Maintenon mais non écrite par elle.

XX.

Lundy au ſoir
17 Mars 1710.

J'eſpere Monſieur eſtre libre demain au matin depuis huit heures et demie iuſques a onze mandés moy quand vous me ferez l' honeur de venir je nai pu me diſpenſer deſcrire aujourd huy a M. la Pr. des Urſins Le courrier part et ie ne puis le retarder.

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XXI.

jeudi 20 Mars 1710.

Il me ſemble Monſieur que vous ne m'auéz pas renvoyé les deux lettres de M. la Princeſſe des Vrſins je les garde toutes et ie vous ſupplie de ne pas interrompre ce deſſein.

XXII.

a Marli ce 12 Avril 1710.

Voila Monſieur le memoire que vous avez deſiré que je vous rendiſſe M. le M^al de Boufflers meſcrit encore en me le renvoyant qu'on pourroit ſen ſeruir vtilement je prie Dieu que vous ſoiés auſſy bon prophete ſur la paix que vous l avéz eſté dans ce qui regarde la guerre je voudrois voir la paix partout, et ie vous aſſure Monſieur le Marechal que ie ſuis ſenſi-

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blement touchée de vos peines. Vous eſtes bien mal habile ſi vous ne les mettés pas a profit.

XXIII.

a S^t^. Cir ce 17 Avril 1710.

Jai leü voſtre dernier lettre Monſieur avec toute l attention quelle merite je voudrois pouuoir donner des remedes aux maux que ie vois et a ceux que ie crains mais ie ſuis auſſy incapable que ie ſuis zelée ce qui eſt un grand malheur je compris aiſement voſtre repence Monſieur et ie ne demandois des nouvelles que de la longue goutte que vous auiéz eüe je ne doute pas que l eſprit ne ſoit toujours bleſſé, le temps eſt pourtant un grand medecin et il me ſemble que tout eſt un peu adoucy de part et d autre je voudrois de bon

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cœur voit la paix partout, et ie ne ceſſerai jamais de vous ſouhaitter heureux et que vous ſoiés perſuadé que ie ſuis Monſieur voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſeruante.

MAINTENON.

XXIV.

a S^t. Cyr ce 17 Avril 1710.

Sy je savois quelque ſecret ſur les affaires Monſieur je ſuis bien aſſurée que vous ne me le demanderiez pas mais il me ſemble quelles ſont preſentement de nature a eſtre connues de tout le monde, vous ſavez mieux que moy peut etre qu'il ny a nulle aparence a la paix, et pour ce qui regarde la guerre il eſt bien ſeur que vous en eſtes plus inſtruit, je comprens aiſement que vous ne portez pas beaucoup de gayété a Vil-

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leroy, cependant il faut prendre courage, et ſe preparer a ſouffrir tout ce qui plaira a Dieu, je n'ai point eu de nouvelles d'Eſpagne par lordinaire paſſé, elles nauroient pas été plus fraiches que celles du Courrier, vous me faites juſtice Monſieur quand vous etes perſuadé que je ne changerai iamais les ſentimens deſtime et de conſideration que j'ay pour vous.

MAINTENON.

Signée par M^me^ de Maintenon mais non écrite par elle.

XXV.

a Marli ce 3 May 1710.

Le peu de repos qu 'on me laiſſe icy, ma mauuaiſe ſanté, et d'autres raiſons que vous cognoiſſé mont empeſché Monſieur de vous renvoyer

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pluſtoſt la lettre de M. la Pr. des Vrſins, et de repondre a celle que vous m 'avez fait l'honeur de meſcrire du 29 avril je nai rien a vous dire ſur noſtre eſtat vous le cognoiſſés mieux que moy, et nen eſtes pas moins touché Eſcriués ce que vous, croyés qui peut eſtre vtile je ſuis perſuadée qu 'il ni a rien qui puiſſe vous empeſcher d aimer le Roy et l'Eſtat il faut eſperer que ces ſentiments produiront leur effect, perſonne ne le deſire plus ſincerement que moy.

MAINTENON.

XXVI.

a S^t. Cir ce 8 May 1710.

Vos refflexions ſon bien conſiderables et bien ſenſées Monſieur j 'eſpere qu'on prendra toutes les pre-

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cautions poſſibles. Vous me faites jnjuſtice en me croyant preuenüe contre vous ce n'eſt pas a moy a parler pour ceux que vous nommés dans voſtre lettre mais ie croy toujours Monſieur que vous voiés les choſes pis quelles ne le ſont je ſouhaitte de tout mon cœur que la paix reigne par tout et que vous me croiés telle que ie ſuis pour vous.

MAINTENON.

XXVII.

Lundy a Marly 1710.

Il ni a rien Monſieur a jnſinuer a Me la Pr. des Urſins Elle ne cognoit pas leſtat preſent de la France, et il faut abandonner le Roy d Eſpagne a la fidelité de ſes ſujets Leur courage eſt admirable Dieu veuille les proteger je nay pas manqué de

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montrer l article qui regarde la conſeruation d'Arras vous avez raiſon Monſieur de dire toujours ce que vous penſes c eſt la conduitte d un bon ſuiet et dvn homme de bien.

XXVIII.

a S^t. Cir 6 Janvier 1711.

J avois deviné Monſieur que Mr. l'Electeur de Cologne auoit envie de dire la meſſe à St. Cir car c eſt la maniére dont il regale toutes les perſonnes a qui il veut faire honneur ou plaiſir, vous avez repondu a ſouhait, et vous me tirez d un tres grand embaras q̃ ma ſanté, et mon âge m auroit rendu fort penible, j'aime beaucoup mieux avoir l'honneur de le voir a Verſailles ſil le veut abſolument, je lavois evité au premier voyage qu'il fit icy mais comme Mr. l'Electeur de Bavière m a fait cet

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honneur a Marly celuy cy voudra peut eſtre faire la même choſe, vous ſavez comme je penſe et combien je voudrois m'enfermer faittes donc la deſſus avec voſtre bonté ordinaire et ſelon ce que vous croyez que je dois faire, je ne puis Monſieur vous remercier aſſez de m avoir ſauvé la viſite de St. Cyr. Quant a ce qui vous regarde je comprens vos reſſentimens mais il ne faut jamais deſeſperer de rien, il me ſemble que ſy vous vous raprochiez un peu vous trouveriez moins de ſechereſſe, il m'eſt revenu qu'on vous a parlé, ſuivez ce petit adouciſſement je vous en conjure, et croyez qu'il ny a perſonne qui deſire voſtre ſatisfaction plus ſincerement que voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſervante.

MAINTENON.

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XXIX.

a Verſailles 25 Janvier 1711.

Jay une fluction dans la teſte et ſur les yeux qui me met hors d etat de vous ecrire de ma main, ſy vous pouviez Monſieur faire valoir cette petite maladie juſquau depart de Mr. l Electeur ie vous en ſerois infiniment obligée mais ſy cela eſt impoſſible j'áime encore mieux le voir a St. Cir qu'a Verſailles, pouruu que vous lui faſſiez bien comprendre que ie ſuis trop vieille et trop malade pour aller le recevoir et le conduire a la porte, pour le ſuivre a l'egliſe et dans tous les lieux qu'il voudra voir, du reſte on fera entrer et ſortir les Demoiſelles tant qu'il luy plaira, et je compte qu après cela il me feroit vne petite viſite dans ma chambre, ou je l'attendrois ſur mon Lit il faudroit que je fuſſe avertie dès la

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veille, et qu'il vint a St. Cir vers les trois heures, quant a vous Monſieur le Marechal je vous veray et vous ecouteray quand il vous plaira pourvu que de voſtre coſté vous me donniez auſſi le temps de choiſir vne heure et vn Lieu ou nous ſoyons en repos.

MAINTENON.

Ces deux lettres ſont ſignées par Madame de Maintenon mais non écrites par elle.

XXX.

a St. Cir 23 Mars 1711.

Jai ſuiet de croire Monſieur le Marechal par la maniere dont vous m'auéz parlé ſur M. l'Electeur de Cologne que vous cognoiſſés tout ce qui a rapport a luy je vous conjure donc de voir ſon réſident, et de luy dire comme vous le ſauéz qu une par-

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ticulière ne ſe peut meſler des affaires d un grand Prince, ni ſe faire valoir par des ſollicitations qui ne ſont que trop fortes par elle meſme, et qui ne peuuent eſtre innutiles que par une entiere impoſſibilité je cognois trop ce que le Roy penſe la deſſus pour m ingerer de le preſſer je ne puis donc Monſieur que faire des vœux pour M. l'Electeur auec le zele que tout bon françois doit auoir, et qui a bien redoublé par auoir en l honeur de le voir, et de receuoir mille marques de ſa bonté que ie ne puis iamais oublier et qui me rendront touſiours ſenſible a ſes interets.

MAINTENON.

XXXI.

ce 16 Avril 1711.

La mort de Monſeigneur eſt affligente en toutes circonſtances il ſeroit a deſirer que nous en profitaſſions en

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nous tenant toujours preſt, il avoit ſon confeſſeur dans ſa maiſon et les meilleurs medecins de france il meurt dans un moment, et ſans confeſſion.

Je voudrais de tout mon cœur vous entretenir mais je ne vois point encore comment je le pourrai faire je ne dois pas m'eloigner du Roy et j'ai a St. Cir cent dix ou douze filles qui ont la rougéole, je n'oſe m expoſer a cet air la revenant au milieu de tous nos princes que ie voy qu'on effraye exceſſivement car le Roy ayant changé dair et d'habits ne peut point eſtre dangereux, noſtre Dauphine neſt pas peu embaraſſée a ſe partager entre le Roy et Mr. ſon mary.

Il eſt vray que i' ay bien peu de connoiſſance ſy l interieur de la cour devient plus dangereux qu il neſtoit, nous en diſcourerons le plus toſt que ie pourray.

MAINTENON.

Signée mais non écrite par M. de M.

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XXXII.

a Marly 4 May 1711.

Voſtre juſte douleur et une petite fièvre qui ne me quitte guere depuis huit ou dix jours m ont empeſché de vous demander quelque prediction ſur la mort de Lempereur, et de repondre plutoſt a la derniere lettre que vous m'avez fait l honneur de mecrire, je ne crois point Monſieur que Mr. des Maretz puiſſe preſentement donner de l'argent a noſtre amie, il me paroiſt plus preſſé que jamais et nous ſommes ſy mal que rien ne nous ſoulage, je vois L'Archiduc empereur, la Ligue ſubſiſter comme elle a fait juſques icy, je ne ſerois pas fachée que vous ne fuſſiez pas de mon avis, je ſuis dans une grande inquietude de la Reyne d'Eſpagne, je n'ay point receu des nouvelles de Me la Princeſſe des

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Urſins cet ordinaire, je ne vois point de lettres d elle pour Piedmont qui paſſent toujours par Me la Dauphine et qui n a rien receu cette fois icy, Mr. de Torcy a ſeulement dit que la Reyne eſt un peu mieux, mais c eſt une fièvre continue depuis 21 jours, on dit que la Princeſſe Anne ſe meurt, Dieu voudroit il prendre une teſte conſiderable dans chaque Royaume, et tout cela ſans utilité pour nous, il faut ſe ſoumettre à ſa volonté ſans la comprendre, je vous aſſure Monſieur que toutes mes peines ne m'empeſchent point de penſer ſouvent aux voſtres et a celle de Mr. le duc de Villeroy qui eſt trop raiſonnable pour aporter des raiſons pour la detruire, croyez moi je vous ſupplie voſtre tres humble et tres obeiſſante ſervante.

MAINTENON.

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XXXIII.

a Marly 19 May 1711.

Mr. le Duc de Villeroy me dit hier que vous aviez la goûte, ſy c eſt dans ce temps la que vous m'avez fait lhonneur de mecrire je vous pardonne tout le vinaigre qui eſt dans voſtre lettre, il y en a pour tout le monde, mais je n'y repondray point, je vous dirai ſeulement Monſieur que je n'ai point pleuré avec Mr. Chamillart et que i'ay ſeulement envié le bonheur et le tranquillité de la vie qu'il fait preſentement je voudrois bien que nous fuſſions a Verſailles et que vous puſſiez y venir j'ai auſſy quelque impatience de voir ſy vous vous y conduirez bien et ſy vous repondrez a lavence qu'on vous a faite je crois Monſieur que tous ceux qui aiment l'état comme vous ne

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peuvent rien faire de meilleur que de proſner Mr. le Dauphin il le merite par bien des endroits, il a des deffauts qui eſt ce qui n'en a point, Mme. la Princeſſe des Urſins m ecrit que bien loin de retirer quatre bataillons d'Eſpagne nous devrions les fortifier, finir la guerre en ce pais le, et recomander le reſte a Dieu, je ne crois pas que vous penſiez de même, il ne me paroiſt pas que les affaires aillent de ce coſté la auſſi bien qu'on leſperoit par raport a largent et aux ſubſiſtences, gueriſſez Monſieur et nous nous raccommoderons a la première converſation.

MAINTENON.

Ces deux lettres ſont ſignées par Mme de M. mais non écrites par elle.

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XXXIV.

Ce 12 Aouſt 1711.

Je conviens Monſieur de la prudence de vostre conduitte dans la conjoncture preſente mais non pas du reſte de la lettre, vous cognoiſſés mieux que moy ce pays icy et ie ne dois pas vous faire des leçons ſur les grands, Mr. Voiſin a dit a la D de Noailles qu'il attand ſon mari le 15 ou 16 de ce mois je n en ſai rien dailleurs il m eſcrit bien comme un homme qui reuient du reſte il ne me dit pas un mot du temps de ſon retour Mon deſſein eſt de l eſcouter et de ne luy rien dire de ce que i ay appris par vous, voicy deux ordinaires que je ne recois point de nouvelles de M la Pr Vrſins je ne laiſſay pas de luy eſcrire hier Quand ie ne vous ai pas repondu Monſieur i ay cru qu'il ni avoit rien a dire qu' a vous remer-

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cier de vos ſoins, et il me ſemble que nous n en ſommes plus aux complimens.

MAINTENON.

XXXV.

a Verſailles 28 Decembre 1711.

Je crois Monſieur que vous ſavez mieux que moi ou nous en ſommes ſur la paix et ſy vous eſtiez icy ie vous conſulterois pour ſavoir ſil y a lieu de ſallarmer de tout ce que les hollandois font pour la rompre et des deſſeins magnifiques de l'Empereur qui veut une armée de cent cinquante mil hommes, cependant il me paroiſt qu on eſpere les paſſe ports mercredy ou jeudi, on nous avoit dit que le Prince Eugene etoit en Angleterre mais on ſeſt trompé, il a eu une longue conference a la haye apres laquelle il a envoyé un courier a l'Empereur,

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nous n'avons point de nouvelles d'Eſpagne cet ordinaire, je voudrois meriter vos louanges autant que M^lle d'Aumale merite celle que vous lui donnez.

MAINTENON.

Cette lettre eſt ſignée par M^me de Maintenon mais non écrite par elle.

XXXVI.

ce 2 janvier 1712.

Diſpenſés moy ie vous conjure Monſieur de voir Mr. d Aubigny je ne voy pas un moment de repos pour moy auant Marli et ce que ie luy dirois n'auroit pas plus de force que ce que i eſcris a Me la P. des Vrſins, qui m'a desja montré tout ſon chagrin ſur ce que l on ne veut pas icy que les plenipotentiares d'Eſpagne arriuent en meſme temps que les

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noſtres Vous ſaués Monſieur que ie nentre point dans les affaires que ie ne les entends pas, et que lon ne veut de moy que mes prieres qui ne ſont peut eſtre pas ſi bonnes que mes conſeils mais enfin il faut ſeruir a la mode de ceux qu'on ſert je vous remercie Monſieur de ne me rien dire ſur la bonne année, vous eſtes le ſeul, et ie ne vous en ſouhaittrai pas moins une heureuſe je ſauois vos douleurs et ien ſuis bien fachée Les paſſeports arriués mont fait paſſer une bonne nuit.

XXXVII.

ce 23 Decembre 1711.

Si M la Pr. des Vrſins mecrivoit Monſieur je ne manquerois pas de luy repondre, mais ie ne la veux point attaquer il me convient moins que jamais davoir des comerces et vous ſavez qu il y a longtemps que ie

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voulois finir celuy la je la trouve plus a plaindre par ſa maniere de[1] . . . . que par ce que la fortune luy a fait . . . . . La voila preſte a devenir aveugle comment ſupporter un tel etat ſans le ſecours de Dieu.

On me mande que les plus ſerieux magiſtrats des parlemens des provinces diſent hautement qu'il n'eſt plus queſtion de conſtitution et qu'il faut oublier tout ce que le Roy a fait pour la faire recevoir ils deviennent tous les jours plus hardis, et eſperent aparanment la mort du Pape.

Pourquoy Monſieur ne me mandez vous pas ce qu'on dit du pretendant car j imagine ce qu'il y a de pis, et il vaut touiours mieux ſavoir ce qui eſt.

On pretend que la petite verole eſt bien forte a Paris Nous avons perdu cette nuit une dame de St.

[1] Illégible dans l'original.

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Louis et mené deux demoiſelles aujourd huy a l'infirmerie de la petite verole.

Mr. de Guiguonuille (?) pretend que vous l'avez bien traitté dans une affaire qu'il a eüe devant vous et veut croire que jy ay quelque part.

Je ne croy point qu'il y euſt du danger a venir icy, mais ie ſuis perſuadée qu'il faut prendre des precautions innutiles pour le depoſt qui vous a eſté confié.

MAINTENON.

En reliſant voſtre lettre auant de la bruſler iay trouvé que vous me parles ſouvent de l'obligation que vous m' avez Nous ne ſavons Monſieur ce que nous demandons ni ce que nous faisons vous ſeriez beaucoup plus heureux que vous ne leſtes ſi vous eſtiés demeuré comme vous eſtiés je ne puis vous exprimer combien ie comprens vos peines il

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faut ſe tourner du coſté de la famille et des amis.

XXXVIII.

Ce 5 Janvier 1716.

J'ay relu voſtre lettre Monſieur avec plus de loiſir que lors qu'il fallait y repondre Dieu veuille maintenir le Prince dans ces ſentimens de religion et de iuſtice que vous dittes voir en luy il y gagneroit beaucoup en toute façon. On nous aſſure icy que le Pape eſt tres mal mais cette nouvelle la ne vient pas de bon lieu.

Advouons après avoir ſatisfait pleinement a nos devoirs envers M. la Pr. des Urſins quelle eſt trop frivole pour ſon perſonnage et pour ſon aage. Je ne demande jamais des details ſur le Chevalier de St. George mais ſeulement ſi ſes affaires vout bien ou mal.

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Ayez la bonte de vous faire lire la lettre de Me. de St. Remi des Landes pour voir ſi ce quelle a ſuffit pour gagner ſon proces car il ne faut pas que nous l entreprenions que nous n en ſoyons comme aſſures.

Je voudrois de tout mon cœur Monſieur pouuoir vous contredire quand vous vous plaignés et trouver des raiſons pour vous conſoler mais iadvoue que je vous trouve tres malheureux et ſans remede au moins eſt il bien eſloigné, je nai pas une agreable idée de vos converſations avec Mr. du Marne (?) dont l eſtat eſt encore pis que le voſtre. Ces penſées la troublent ſouvent le repos de ma retraitte.

Plus on fait de reflexions ſur l eſtat de la France plus on deſire la vie du jeune Roy, et ce ne ſont pas les ennemis de M. le D. d'Orleans.

Le mariage que vous faittes eſt tres ſage Monſieur et bien aſſorti je

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voudrois que celuy de M. le M. de Villeroy le fuſt car je ne voy pour vous que la douceur d'une famille bien unie. Vous avez trop de bonté de vouloir ſauoir des nouvelles de ma ſanté, elle eſt ſurprenante pour mon age.

Nous ſommes accablés icy de malades, nous ne voyons qu enterrer et porter les ſacremens. Il eſt certain Monſieur qu'il ne me convient point de recevoir ſouvent des viſittes mais je vous aſſure avec la meſme ſincerité que ie m'ennuie de n'avoir pas l'honeur de vous voir et que ie ſuis fachée qu'il y ait de l impoſſibilité.

Me. de Ravenal (?) n'eſt plus a pleindre quand elle eſt entre M. le Duc de Ventadour et vous. Qu eſt ce que la grandeur Monſieur quand Mr. Alberoni gouverne un royaume.

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XXXIX.

a S[t] Cir ce 16 Janvier 1716.

Je vous aſſure Monſieur que ie ſerois tres aiſe d'avoir l honeur de vous voir, mais ie ne comprens point quand nous le pourrons, non que iy croye aucun danger mais ce n'eſt pas aſſez pour le treſor que vous gardez nous avons icy des fieures malignes, le pourpre et la petite verole toutes ſont a l extremite et elles ne meurent point et ie crains que peu en ſoient preſervées je penſai bien hier au ſoir a voſtre noce qui doit eſtre heureuſe j'attens avec quelqu'impatience des nouvelles d'Angleterre mais tout ce que l'on nous dit ſur l'argent eſt deſeſperant a qui aime le bien public j'eſpere que Dieu fera quelque choſe en faveur de l'Egliſe quoy qu'on ny voye nulle aparance et que ſes ennemis triomphent.

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Adieu Monſieur le Marechal conſoles vous par le bonheur de celuy que vous regrettes.

MAINTENON.

XL.

a St. Cir ce 24 Fevrier 1716.

Je ſuis bien touchée de voſtre eſtat Monſieur et de la ſeparation dont vous me parlés, et bien fachée de ne pouvoir vous donner la conſolation que voſtre amitié pour moy vous feroit trouver en m ouvrant voſtre cœur. Les maladies de St. Cir avoient eü un petit intervale comme j'avois eü l honeur de vous l'eſcrire mais elles ont bien augmenté, et a tout moment on me vient annoncer qu il y en a de nouvelles. Il eſt certain Monſieur qu'il ni a nul veritable danger, que les plus proches de moy en ſont bien eſloignées qu'il

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y a pluſieurs courts et pluſieurs corps de logis entre deux mais vous ne prendres pas ſur vous ce qu'on pourrait dire la deſſus en cas de malheur je vous aurois propoſé de me voir en allant à Villeroy mais vous ne voules peut eſtre pas quitter de ſi loin voſtre jeune prince, vous allés encore vous attacher a luy et ce ſera une nouvelle cauſe de chagrins. Il eſt ſeur qu'il ſera aimable, ce n'eſt pas aſſez pour la place qu'il doit occuper.

Je vous conjure de regarder Mr. du Maine et Mr. ſon frere comme les gens du monde que le Roy aimait le plus tendrement, et avec raiſon car vous avec vü leur veritable attachement que nul mauvais exemple ni nulle contrainte na pu deranger un moment.

Il ni a rien que je ne vouluſſe faire pour voſtre conſolation Monſieur, qu'eſt ce que la fortune.

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XLI.

ce 20 Mars 1716.

Quelque peu que ie ſois Monſieur ie ſens bien que je vous manque, et i en ſuis bien fachee ie vous aſſure que vous n avez point plus d envie de mouvrir voſtre cœur que i en ai de vous entendre. Nous ne pourrons plus avoir de plaiſir il faut ſe contenter de la foible conſolation de ſe plaindre avec ceux qui penſent et qui ſentent comme vous. Mais je ne puis haſter d un moment ce qui ſoppoſe a vos voyages de St. Cir. La petite verole ſubſiſte ici ie le ſui avec grand ſoin pour compter les 40 jours de la derniere fille qui la eüe il y en a ſouvent de nouvelles et s'il faut que toutes y paſſent nous en avons pour des années. La Reyne m'a mandé qu elle a vü ſon cher fils je ne puis lire dans voſtre lettre le

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mot de Madradit qui eſt auſſy bien eſcrit que tout le reſte.

Je ſerois trop hereuſe dans ma retraitte ſi je n'aimais plus perſonne, mais tous mes amis, mes amies et mes proches ſont les plus malheureux de tout le reſte du monde qui ſe plaint pourtant, car on ne voit dans tous eſtats que des viſages affligés.

MAINTENON.

XLII.

de S^t^ Cyr ce 11 Decembre 1716.

J ay eſté malade aſſez conſiderablement et ie ſuis dans une foibleſſe qui me m eſt hors d eſtat d eſcrire moy meſme M^elle^. d'Aumale ne ſe porte guere mieux que moy et ie ne changeray pas ma ſanté pour la ſienne.

Noſtre Superieure qui ſeroit un

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bon ſecretaire eſt ſi affligée de ſon elévation et a tan d affaires que ie n'en puis tirer aucun ſecours.

Je prends M^elle^. de Mornay dont le nom ne vous eſt pas inconue pour repondre a voſtre lettre.

Je ne prends plus guere d intereſt a ce qui ſe paſſe ſur les affaires de l'Egliſe par ce que ie ſuis perſuadée qu elles ne peuvent s'accomoder avantageuſement pour la religion. Celle des Princes me touche trop pour mon repos.

Md. de Vertrieux eſtoit une ſainte tres reſpectable et cette maiſon icy a fait vne grande perte.

Je ſouhaite de tout mon cœur Monſieur que voſtre goute n'eſt point de ſuite.

Vous eſtes admirable dans tous vos procédés de pouſſer vos ſoins juſqua me mander des nouvelles de Md. d'Auxy ie n'en avois point et ie ne puis m empeſcher de l aimer

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tendrement par la raiſon que vous ſavez.

Qui eſt qui peut arriver de nouveau a cette ſainte Reine elle a envoyé ſavoir aujourdhuy de mes nouvelles et j ay apris par la qu elle eſt malade Md. de Dangeau doit venir icy Mardy elle vous dira Monſieur en quel eſtat elle m aura trouvée et ſy ie pourray profiter de l'honneur que vous me voulez faire que ie recevray toujours avec vn extreme plaiſir.

MAINTENON.

Cette lettre eſt ſignée par M^me^ de Maintenon mais non écrite par elle.

XLIII

ce 2 Fevrier 1717.

La mort de Monſieur le Chancellier et les ſuittes quelle a me

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touchent ſenſiblement. Ceſtoit un homme attaché au Roy et a la religion Les deſſeins de Dieu ſont incomprehenſibles il faut ſi ſoumettre je perds un ami et ami de tous mes amis. Cette maiſon icy fait auſſy une perte irreparable. Ou pourra bien ne me pas conſulter ſur le conſeiller d 'Eſtat qui doit en gouverner le temporel je nen cognois auqun penſés y Monſieur je vous en ſupplie. Je croy Mrs. de Noailles bien contens tout leur reuſſit Adieu ie nay pas le courage de rien dire On doit trembler pour vous car vous aimiés le Roy.

MAINTENON.

XLIV.

ce 20 Fevrier 1717.

Il ni a donc Monſieur ni aſſiduité ni laſſitude de corps et deſprit qui

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vous empeſche de me donner de lhoneur de voſtre amitié, et i entrevoy par un mot de voſtre lettre qu'il y a meſme quelque peine nouvelle ceſt le moyen de me faire deſirer malgré toute ma diſcretion que vous me faſſiez une viſitte car ie ſerai inquiette iuſques ce que ie ſache ce que ceſt.

Je nai iamais rien eſperé de M. le Cardinal de Noailles mais vous ne ſauriez croire la pitié que me fais le Regent il eſt viſible qu 'il ſouhaitte ſincerement et ardemment la paix de l'Egliſe et il ne peut y parvenir qu 'en ſe declarant pour la bonne cauſe il verroit bien viſte tomber les difficultés qui croiſſent tous les jours car les libertés de lEgliſe ſont le pretexte et noſtre Roy a montré en bien des occaſions combien il en eſtoit ialoux, autant qu'il le ſaut eſtre. Mr. Voiſin lauoit bien demeſlé quoy quil fuſt prevenu comme

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les autres quand il entra dans ces affaires la.

Jay eu quelque ioye Monſieur de la lettre de M. la Pr. des Urſins elle paroiſt ſe trouver aſſez heureuſe ceſt ce que ie luy ſouhaiteois ie le ſerois plus que je ne le ſuis entre nous ſi i avois quelque ſociété Mais cela ne ſe peut icy et quelqu' eſprit qune religieuſe puiſſe avoir elle na aucune cognoiſſance de ce qui nous a occupé toute noſtre vie.

L'adventure du Cardinal de Giudicé eſt complette et ſils ce voyent leur diſcours ſeroient bons a entendre.

Vous neſtes pas deſtiné preſentement a la ſolitude Monſieur et la ſageſſe veut quon ſaccomode a ſon eſtat ſans enviſager celuy des autres il ny en a point qui nait ſes peines.

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XLV.

ce 22 Juin 1717.

Je ſuis bien fachée de voſtre mal Monſieur, car je ne ſai rien de plus facheux que la douleur, et vous en avez toujours de terribles dans vos gouttes je repondrai aux dames dont vous menvoyés les lettres et ie dois faire marcher demain mon ſeul domeſtique pour aller ſavoir des nouvelles de ces dames qui me donnent ſouvent de l inquietude jattens le Czar qui me vient de mander qu'il viendra icy aujourd' huy au retour de St. Germain. On dit qu 'il n 'eſt pas trop fidelle a ſes rendezvous.

MAINTENON.

XLVI.

29 Aouſt 1717.

Vouz auriez eü grand tort Monſieur ſi vous ne m'aviéz pas mandé des

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nouvelles de M. le M. d'Alaincour car j'en avois été en peine. Voila une grande gloire pour M. le Pr. Eugene. Comme la religion doit aller avant toute choſe il faut nous en reſiouir Ceſt un endroit bien difficile dans le meſtier que vous faittes preſentement car il y a quelque peine a accorder cette religion avec la politique et ceſt pourtant ce qu'il faut inſpirer a voſtre jeune Roy je ſuis bien fachée de leſtat ou ſe trouve Me. de Villette ie vous le dis parce qu'il m'a paru que vous avez de la conſideration pour elle je neſpere guere de viſittes de vous Monſieur et ie nen demande point quelque douceur que ie trouve dans nos converſations je ſuis preſentement dans une grande langueur on dit que ceſt linegaïité du temps, mais ie nen cherche point dautre cauſe que le nombre des années.

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XLVII.

3 janvier 1718.

Je vous croy encore plus accablé ces iours icy que les autres Monſieur et vous auriez pu vous diſpenſer des nouvelles aſſurances que vous me donnés de voſtre amitié jay un fonds de confience la deſſus qui ne ce peut eſpuiſer et vous devez en vérité me faire la meſme iuſtice je ſuis auſſy recognoiſſante que vous eſtes genereux et ie ne puis rien dire de plus voſtre lettre m'a trouvé au lit avec un peu de fievre qui n'aura point de ſuittes je ne repons point a M. le Pr. des Urſins iaime mieux remettre a un jour ou iauray plus de force car ie veux luy parler de vous elle me fait grand pitié lair de Gennes eſt tres mauvais pour les fluxions et elle eſt menacée de perdre les yeux Elle meritait une fin de vie plus heureuſe.

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XLVIII.

23 janvier 1718.

Voſtre politeſſe Monſieur vous fait appeller eſtourderie ce qu'un autre traitterait de radoterie mais heureuſement vous pouviez tout voir je croy qu'il ſeroit de la politique de baiſſer le parti quand l'intereſt de la religion ne ſi trouveroit pas et ie ne ſaurois croire que tous les catholiques y renoncent ſans de grandes extremités je ſeroi bien trompée ſi voſtre Archeſveque donne une acceptation qui contente ceux de laſſemblée Ceſt beaucoup Monſieur de n'avoir point de ces violentes douleurs que vous avez eües ſouvent M. la D. de Ventadour m'a mandé quelle viendroit bien toſt paſſer tout un iour avec moy vous ni ſerez pas oublié mais ie croy qu'il ny a rien a luy dire la deſſus et que voſtre rac-

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comodement ſe feroit bien viſte ſi elle le pouvoit, vous vous ſerez conſolé de ne pas mener le Roy chez Madame de Berri Dieu les beniſſe tous a proportion de leurs beſoins On parle bien moins de cette princeſſe qu 'autrefois, je ne m'attans pas Monſieur a vous voir de longtemps mais je nen compterai pas moins ſur l'honeur de voſtre amitié.

MAINTENON.

XLIX.

ce 9 Fevrier 1718.

Pourquoy Monſieur vous donnés vous la peine de dicter une longue lettre dans leſtat ou vous eſtes. Nulle nouvelle ne m intereſſe tant que voſtre repos et la ceſſation de vos douleurs qui ſelon moy ſont les plus grands malheurs. Je conviens

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que l'aſſiduité aupres du Roy eſt le principal de vos devoirs et celuy qui vous couſte le moins a remplir mais un homme comme vous en a d autres et ne peut jamais ſe ſouſtraire au bien public ie croy que dans la conjoncture preſente vous ne feriez pas tout a fait inutile ſi vous pouviés parler Je ſouhaitte de tout mon cœur que Mr. d'Argenſon travaille avec ſuccés, mais ce ne ſera pas ſans contradiction ſi Mr. le Chancellier revient, comme ie n'en doutte pas et je plains le Regent d'avoir a faire a ces deux teſtes la. On ne peut eſtre moins inſtruitte que je ne le ſuis de l interieur de la famille de M. le D. de N. il meſcrit tres rarement ie ne le voy point et Me. ſa femme a un ſtile laconique je voy par ce qui leur eſt arrivé combien les jugements ſont faux car on croyoit le D. de N. perdu il me paroiſt plus heureux qu'il neſtoit En me donnant part de

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ce que M. le R. venoit de faire pour luy il me manda qu'il gardoit S^t^. Cir et le ſerviroit plus que par le paſſé ayant plus de loiſir. Il eſt bien facheux que l'incident entre Rome et la France fourniſſe un pretexte a M. le D. d Orleans de ne pas menager le Pape avec lequel on aſſurait toujours qu'il ne vouloit pas rompre. Les affaires de l'Egliſe me paroiſſent en plus mauvais eſtat que les autres c'eſt peut eſtre que jy prens encore plus de part je croy comme vous Monſieur que la vie du pere Gaillart eſt fort heureuſe Vous me ferés un grand plaiſir de me mander quand on fera quelque choſe pour cette grande Reyne car on maſſure quelle ne touche plus rien et ie ne comprens pas de quoy elle ſubſiſte je ſay que le credit que ſa bonne foy lui donne la ſoutenue iuſques icy mais ce ſecours ne peut aller bien loin. La ſeule peine que

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ie ſente de ma vieilleſſe eſt de ne pouvoir luy rendre mes devoirs, Me. de Cailus me tient bien advertie de voſtre ſanté vous ne pouvez Monſieur vous en ſouhaitter plus ardanment que ie le ſais tous les jours, et ie croy quand ie prie pour vous prier pour l'Egliſe pour le bien public et pour celuy des particuliers jugés ce qui peut adiouter la recognoiſſance que iay pour vous jen repaſſe ſouvent les cauſes dans mon eſprit.

L.

a S^{t}. Cir ce 19 Janvier 1718.

On m'a dit Monſieur que vous avez la goutte ce n eſt pas un bon remede pour la joye je ne ceſſe de vous en ſouhaitter car outre qu elle eſt bonne a tout elle eſt bien neceſ-

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ſaire pour le meſtier que vous allez faire qui eſt un exercice continuel de patience et de contrainte.

Si ce qu'on me dit du Regent eſt vray ſur la perſuaiſon ou l on dit qu'il eſt que le parti de M. le C^al^ de Noailles n'eſt pas de bonne foi, ce ſeroit un des plus grands biens qui puſt arriver pour la religion l inſolence diminueroit bien ſi elle neſtoit plus protegée.

Un curé la pouſſée juſques a faire un livre de prieres ou il retranche l'avé maria je croy que de telles extremités feront ouvrir les yeux a bien des gens.

Je vous envoye Monſieur une lettre pour Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

Ordonnés a quelqun de meſcrire de vos nouvelles je vous en ſupplie.

MAINTENON.

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LI.

a St. Cyr ce 30 Mars 1710.

Je vous renvoye Monſieur la lettre de Mme la Princeſſe des Urſins après lavoir lüe plus d une fois elle eſt digne d elle, et meriteroit certainement une plus heureuſe deſtinée, nous ſommes bien forcés a vivre au jour la journée et vous le comprenez a merveille quand vous dites qu'on mandra en Eſpagne des choſes toutes differentes d'un ordinaire a l autre, il faut bien que Me. des Urſins attende le denoüement de tout cecy, il ne mapartient pas de raiſonner ſur les affaires, j'ay bien de la peine a croire que le Roy d'Eſpagne faſſe jamais ſa paix particulière en demeurant ou il eſt, voſtre amie me fait juſtice quand elle croit demeſler dans mes lettres une ſeichereſſe forcée et

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une bonne volonté tout a fait impuiſſante, c eſt preciſement l'eſtat ou je me trouve et ſur lequel ie ne puis m'expliquer.

MAINTENON.

LII.

Le Roy eſt abattu ſans ſentir d autre mal je croy (et ce qui eſt plus conſiderable) Mr. fagou croit qu'il ne mange pas aſſez depuis ce fruit avant le repas qui le degouſte de la viande, il n eſt pas accoutume a une ſi legere nourriture il quittera demain les figues avant le potage. Nous verrons comment il ſen trouvera pour moy ie languis mais ie cognois tres bien la cauſe de mon mal jeſpere que vous ſeres demain au ſoir a la muſique avec Me. de V.

Madame a eſté interrompüe mais

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elle me charge d'agouter a ce billet que le Roy a chanté toute la ſoirée et qu il ſort de chez elle en chantant je pourrois au beſoin ſervir de temoin et vous aſſurer que ſa Majeſté vient d eſtre de bonne humeur.

LIII.

18 Aouſt.

On m'avoit dit que le Roy eſtoit tombé de ſon lit ce que ie ne pouvois comprendre ayant un baluſtre Dieu ſoit loüe Monſieur ie comprens parfaittement voſtre frayeur c'eſt un enfant de miracle. C eſt une excellente reponce de l avoir montré au public vous prendrez toujours les meilleurs partis mais j eſpere que les occaſions ne ſen preſenteront pas ſouvent vous avez bien de la bonté de vous informer ſi ſoigneuſement dune

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ſanté qui eſt ſi incertaine Elle eſt bonne aujourd huy il ni a deſgalité chez moy que dans les ſentimens deſtime et de recognoiſſance que iay pour vous.

MAINTENON.

LIV.

ce 9 Octobre.

Vous croyés donc Monſieur meſcrire tous les matins quand vous ne voules pas que ie m'inquiette d'entendre dire tres ſouvent que le Roy ſe trouve mal je ne croy point que vous trouviés fort mauvais i en aye demandé des nouvelles a Me. la D. de Ventadour en luy eſcrivant ſur la mort de ſon mari. Au pis aller Monſieur ie vous en demande pardon et vous m'en pardonneriés bien d'autres. Vous paſſés aſſez légerement le mal de M. le D. de N.

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qu'on m'a mandé eſtre tres conſiderable. L hauteur(?) de l imprime que vous avez la bonté de m envoyer me fait peur. Si ie l'entens i auray l honeur de vous en dire mon advis a la première lettre.

LV.

ce 30 Aouſt.

Je ſens toute vos attentions malgre ma douleur mais elle ne me laiſſe pas la force de vous le dire autant que ie le voudrais tout ce que vous faittes tout ce que vous penſes et tout ce que vous dittes ne ſe peut aſſez admirer—pluſt a Dieu que celuy qui vous approuve vouluſt vous imitter vous m'avez Monſieur fait un grand plaiſir de fournir a Me. de Cailus une occaſion de m'eſcrire ſurement ie ne me porte pas bien et ie mourrai penetrée de toute vos bontés et généroſités.

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Je nay point trouvé la lettre de M. le D. du Maine.

M. le D. de Noailles ſort d icy.

LVI.

Ceſt demain Monſieur que jattens M. le. D. et Mme. la D. de Noailles ils ont choiſi un jour maigre qui m'embaraſſeroit ſi l'avarice qui vous a fait refuſer tant de fagots n'eſtait pas bien aiſe d'avoir un pretexte pour ne leur pas donner de beau poiſſon dont i eſpere qu'on ne trouvera pas a Verſailles.

Je ne croy point eſtre demain bien inſtruitte des nouvelles de voſtre cour. Les miniſtres ne font pas de confidences, M. le D. de Noailles me parlera des affaires de St. Cir, et en ſuitte des finances, a quoy ie n entendrai rien.

Qu il eſt aiſé Monſieur d excuſer

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quelques foibleſſes dans une perſonne auſſy eſtimable et auſſy aimable que M. le Pr. des Urſins je ſens plus d'amitié pour elle que j amais parce que ie croy quelle aimoit le Roy et qu elle le prouve a tous les etrangers qu elle voit aurions nous cru autrefois que nous aurions de la peine a trouver une perſonne attachée a ce grand Prince tout rempli de grande qualités et dont les bienfaits eſtoient ſans meſure.

Le Pr. de Dombes eſt tres heureux d avoir trouve une occaſion de montrer qu'il vaudra quelque choſe.

J eſpere beaucoup de la vie et du merite de voſtre Roy. Le bien paſſoit le mal dans ceux dont il pourra tenir, et il eſt environné de gens vertueux. Craignes les jeunes gens et les valets, et conſervés moy vos bontés.

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NOTICE OF THE LATE PRINCESS LIEVEN.

By Ralph Sneyd, Esq.

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HE following notice of the late Princeſs Lieven was compoſed by the late Ralph Sneyd, Eſquire, in imitation of the characters drawn by St. Simon in his "Memoirs." The manuſcript of this notice was preſented by Mr. Sneyd to Lady Alice Peel, one of the moſt intimate friends of Princeſs Lieven, and by permiſſion of her ladyſhip it is now offered to the members of the Philobiblon Society to be placed in their "Miſcellany."]

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PORTRAIT DE MADAME LA PRINCESSE DE LIEVEN.

À LA MANIÈRE DU DUC DE ST. SIMON.

JANVIER, 1857.

LA Princeſſe de Lieven mourut en ce tems-ci à Paris. Tout en ſe cachant aux yeux du public, elle était devenue célèbre. C'était une femme aſſez grande, droite, maigre, qui, bien que les amoureux ne lui aient pas manqué dans ſes jeunes années, n'avait jamais été d'une beauté remarquable; mais elle en produiſait tout l'effet,—et on lui paſſait volontiers les détails, l'enſemble ayant un charme et un attrait incomparables. C'était la perfection de la convenance

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et du bon ton,—le plus grand air, les plus grandes manières qu'on pût voir, —un vrai port de Princeſſe, d'une dignité ſimple et naturelle,—rien d'emprunté, de factice, ni de théâtral. Une toilette du meilleur goût et toujours d'accord avec ſon âge. Elle avait infiniment d'eſprit, et de cet eſprit mâle, ſérieux et logique qui ne ſe rencontre que rarement chez les femmes, tempéré toutefois par la fineſſe, la grâce, et la ſoupleſſe qu'on ne retrouve que chez elles.

Son mari, fils de la Gouvernante des Empereurs Alexandre et Nicholas, et pour ce ſeul motif très bien en cour,—(car c'était peu de choſe, du reſte honnête homme, ſûr et loyal,)— était ambaſſadeur de Ruſſie à Londres pendant les vingt années qui ſuivirent le renverſement de l'Empire de Napoléon, quand les grands intérêts de l'Europe roulaient ſur la bonne intelligence de ces deux Cours.

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Dans une charge ſi importante, faut-il s'étonner qu'elle prit, fort jeune, le goût de la politique et l'habitude des grandes affaires? Peut-être était-ce calcul de ſon gouvernement que ſes talens, ſon tact, et ſon ſavoir faire ſuppléaſſent à l'eſprit court de M. de Lieven: Il n'eſt pas douteux que les miniſtres de celui auquel il était accredité, aimaient mieux diſcuter les queſtions diplomatiques avec la femme qu'avec le mari. En effet, elle parlait mieux que pas un d'eux (et il y en avait cependant qui valaient la peine d'être écoutés) c'était une brièveté, une préciſion preſque épigrammatique, ſans affectation d'épigramme;—un language net et clair, court et ſerré, mais à la fois aiſé, grâcieux, piquant, quelquefois badin,—toujours convenable,—toujours le mot propre;—la raiſon de La Rochefoucault avec les façons de Madame de Sévigné.

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Des rapports journaliers et une correſpondance ſuivie avec les hommes d'Etat de tous les pays, et les plus marquants de leur époque, lui avaient valu des connaiſſances exactes ſur tout ce qui ſe faiſait dans le monde politique et ſur toutes les queſtions qui s'y agitaient. Elle attrapait des faits et des idées à ce commerce. Un homme d'état illuſtre, M.—, diſait qu'elle feuilletait les hommes comme les hommes feuillétent les livres. Mais ſa ſcience n'avait pas d'autre ſource. L'éducation qu'on recevait au dix-huitième ſiècle, à l'Académie des demoiſelles nobles de St. Péterſbourg, où elle fut élevée, viſait apparemment plutôt aux talens d'agrément qu'à l'inſtruction ſolide. Elle en ſortit muſicienne de première force, mais d'une ignorance pour les choſes les plus élémentaires à ſcandaliſer un écolier de dix ans. D'Alexandre et de

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Philippe, elle n'eut certainement pas ſu lequel des deux était le père de l'autre. Ce manque de ſavoir, elle ne l'a jamais réparé. La lecture n'était point de ſon goût. Elle ne pouvait s'y fixer. Elle ne liſait que les journaux—et c'eſt une merveille qu'ayant moins lu, elle ſut mieux écrire que perſonne au monde. Tout ce qui a été dit de ſa converſation eſt vrai de ſon ſtyle; clarté, conciſion, gravité de ſens, légèreté de touche,—avec des tours charmans, inattendus. Auſſi ſe plaiſait-elle à écrire, et il doit exiſter grand nombre de ſes lettres—qui ſont d'ailleurs de celles qu'on ne détruit pas. En dernier lieu elle a fait des Mémoires; c'eſt à dire, elle a mis ſur papier—mais par moments, ſans ſuite et ſelon que la penſée lui en revenait,—les ſouvenirs de ſa vie paſſée. J'en ai lu quelques cahiers—rien de plus amuſant, rien de plus ſpirituel,—

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avec cela très importants pour la vérification de l'hiſtoire, qui de nos jours eſt tombée dans les mains de poétes, de romanciers et de rhéteurs. Ce travail, elle ne l'avait entrepris que pour ſe déſennuyer,—car échapper à l'ennui était le grand but de ſon exiſtence, et malgré ſes talens et ſon eſprit, elle ne l'atteignait pas toujours. L'ennui lui cauſait une terreur panique; et elle était réduite parfois à des expédiens fort comiques pour s'y ſouſtraire. Difficile, dédaigneuſe même, plutôt que de ſe trouver ſeule, elle s'accommodait de tout ce qui lui tombait ſous la main —et il court des contes fort plaiſants ſur les cavaliers qu'elle s'eſt attirés pour compagnons de voyage.

Elle était au deſſus de la fauſſeté comme de toute petiteſſe; vraie, juſqu'à la naïveté pour les choſes qui la touchaient perſonellement; ce qui lui attira le reproche d'égoïſme,

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fondé juſqu'à un certain point; mais c'était un égoïſme de ſurface, qui n'entamait pas le fond de ſon bon naturel et de ſes fidèles et ſolides amitiés.

Ses ennemis pourtant l'accuſaient d'une baſſe courtiſanerie. Ils prétendaient qu'elle ſe jetait à la tête des gens au pouvoir, et leur tournait le dos, dès qu'ils n'y étaient plus. Il y avait là du vrai, et cependant le reproche n'était pas mérité. Etre au mieux avec les princes et les miniſtres, ſe ſouſtraire à l'intimité de ceux qui avaient déplu, ce n'était chez elle, ni baſſeſſe, ni inconſtance, ni vanité de femme, mais tout bonnement un devoir de métier. Une fois l'hôtel de l'Ambaſſade échangé contre un ſalon de particulière, ſes portes s'ouvraient pour les diſgraciés comme pour les puiſſants, pour tout les gens de talent ou de diſtinction quelconque, et pour d'anciennes

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connaiſſances qui n'en avaient aucune. Ce ſalon eſt devenu claſſique comme celui de Madame du Deffand. C'eſt là que ſe raſſemblaient les hommes les plus éminens de la France. Pays neutre où les combattans parlementaires et dynaſtiques—les Molé, les Montalembert, les Guizot, les Berryer, les Thiers—ſe rencontraient au plus fort de leurs guerres acharnées, et diſcutaient ſans rancune—apprivoiſés ſous le charme dominateur d'une femme qui tenait le dé de l'aveu de tous.

Peureuſe à l'excès, éffrayée à la plus légère maladie, du moment qu'elle ſentit qu'il n'y avait plus à ſe méprendre et que cette fois c'était bien la mort à laquelle elle avait affaire, elle l'enviſagea avec un grand calme et un haut courage. Son fils le prince Paul et ſon ami depuis long temps dévoué, M. Guizot, ne bougèrent pas de ſon chevet. Elle en-

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voya chercher quelques unes de ſes amies ; elle vit même des perſonnes fort indifférentes. Elle reçut les derniers ſacrements ſelon le rite proteſtant. A quelqu'un qui lui parlait de la religion en s'enfonçant dans le myſtère du dogme, elle dit, —" Vous creuſez la religion—moi, je prie." Ayant ouï dire l'avant veille de ſa mort, qu'un très ancien ami, M. de Meyendorff, venait d'arriver à Paris, elle lui écrivit de ſon lit,—" Quelle joie et quelle miſère ! Vous arrivez, et je pars pour ſi loin. Venez me voir, vous ſerez peut-être à temps."

Se ſentant défaillir, elle inſiſta pour que ſon fils et M. Guizot quittaſſent la chambre, voulant leur épargner le pénible ſpectacle d'une dernière agonie. Elle eut cependant la force d'écrire avec un crayon à M. Guizot, " Merci de vingt ans d'amitié et de bonheur." C'eſt ainſi

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qu'elle quitta dignement un monde où elle avait dignement rempli une poſition marquante, en âme forte, en tendre amie, en bonne chrétienne.

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NOTE.

WHILE I was in Paris, during the latter years of the Princeſs Lieven's life, I had the gratification of hearing a portion of the Journal ſhe had kept during her diplomatic reſidence in England and on the Continent. The Princeſs had been ſo identified with all the great events of the early part of this century, and had aſſociated on ſo complete an equality with the leading men, that her obſervations and criticiſms had the higheſt intereſt in themſelves, and were expreſſed with great charm of ſtyle and diſtinction of wit. It will be a ſerious loſs to our moſt intimate hiſtorical knowledge of the political intricacies of the time if they are altogether ſuppreſſed. After her death they would have become the property of her ſons, who are well known in this country, and who would fully appreciate their value. There is the danger that they may have been claimed by, and ſurrendered to, the Ruſſian Government, in which caſe they may be al-

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together loſt, or remain concealed in the ſecret archives as long as was the autobiography of Catherine II. We wiſh ſome Pruſſian man of letters would tell us what has become of the ſecond part of the "Memoirs of the Margravine of Baireuth," promiſed in the firſt edition of 1813.

HOUGHTON.

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THE TOMBS OF THE SCALIGERS AT VERONA.

COMMUNICATED BY EDWARD CHENEY, ESQ.

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THE TOMBS OF THE SCALIGERS AT VERONA.

MONGST the numerous cities of Lombardy which engage the attention of the traveller, none can compete with Verona in picturesque beauty and historical interest. The palaces, bridges, and churches, built on a scale of royal magnificence, denote its former grandeur and importance. The Scalas have left their impress on every part of their capital; but their own tombs far exceed all other monuments in

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beauty and ſingularity. This illuſtrious houſe has long been extinct.

The family of La Scala which reigned with ſupreme power in Verona for a hundred and fifty years, and which exerciſed ſo great an influence throughout the Italian Peninſula during that period, had no very remote or illuſtrious origin. An ambitious adventurer ſucceeded in gaining the ſupremacy in his native city, and eſtabliſhing a dynaſty that reigned firſt by favour and affection, and afterwards by tyranny and ſeverity, till, worn out and exhauſted, it loſt the favour of the people, and the ſupport of its followers, and finally fell a prey to the crafty policy of the more fortunate Viſconti.

Hiſtory rejects the fabulous antiquity which flatterers aſſigned to this

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family during the period of its proſperity, and authenticated annals commence with Bonifazio and Fabrizio Della Scala, who were put to death by Eccelino da Romano, tyrant of Padua, in the middle of the 13th century.

The firſt of the family whoſe name appears in the civic annals of Verona is one Adamo Della Scala, of whom little is recorded beyond his name. The ancient German deſcent which ſome genealogiſts have aſſigned to this family is quite unſupported by evidence, and the origin of the name itſelf has been no leſs the ſubject of unfounded conjecture. Thoſe who derive it from a warrior who firſt planted a ladder againſt the walls of a beſieged city, and thoſe leſs flattering, who ſuppoſe it to have been given to a mechanic whoſe trade was making lad-

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ders, are equally without warrant for their theory. Theſe conſiderations, however, are beſide our preſent purpoſe; it is ſufficient that the Scalas, or *Scaligeri*, as they loved to be called, became famous in the hiſtory of their native country in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and that they left thoſe beautiful monuments of their grandeur which are the ſubject of the preſent notice.

The court of the lords of Verona during their brief period of ſupremacy became ſo famous throughout Italy for its ſplendid hoſpitality, that it was not only the reſort of poets, ſculptors and architects, who found favour and employment in it, but was alſo the aſylum of illuſtrious exiles from every part of the Peninſula.

Dante records the courteſy with which he was received by Cangrande Della Scala; and the court of this prince, and of his ſtill more

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faſtuous ſucceſſor Canſignorio, has been made the ſcene of tragic and romantic incidents. It is this connection between art and hiſtory that gives their chief value to the monuments of Italy, which lends them a charm beyond their artiſtic beauty, and which addreſſes itſelf to our imagination through our ſenſes.

The Scalas perhaps now owe their "freſh remembrance" rather to the beautiful and conſpicuous monuments they raiſed to their own glory than to their place in hiſtory. Though Cangrande was a great man, tried by a far higher ſtandard than that which poſterity can ſafely adopt in eſtimating the characters of his contemporaries, he was not without faults, both grievous and heavy; but endowed with qualities rare at any time, and far rarer in the age and country to which he belonged.

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He was ſucceeded by princes leſs worthy than himſelf, and the race finally dwindled and became extinct; and their ſceptre paſſed into the hands of more powerful and more crafty neighbours.

A brief notice of the princes, whoſe bones repoſe in this romantic cemetery, may not be an unfitting preface to the lines which a viſit to it ſuggeſted.

Maſtino I, the firſt of his houſe who reigned with ſupreme authority in Verona, bore the modeſt title of Captain of the People, to which rank he was raiſed by acclamation. He was a wiſe and prudent governor, and a warrior of approved ſagacity. He reigned for ſixteen years, from 1261 to 1277.

He was ſucceeded by his brother, Albert I. To this laſt ſucceeded his three ſons, Bartolomeo, Alboino, and Franceſco, better known

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by the ſurname of Cangrande,[1] the hero of the race. This laſt named prince was ſucceeded by his nephew Albert II, in the year 1314, and ſubſequently by another nephew, Maſtino II, in the year 1329. Canſignorio I. and Paul-Alboin were the next in ſucceſſion. The firſt was the father of the magnificent Canſignorio II, who in his turn was ſucceeded by his two natural ſons Bartolomeo II. and Antonio, the twelfth and laſt lord of Verona, at whoſe death, or rather expulſion, the independence of the city ceaſed, and the ſtate became very ſhortly

[1] The origin of the ſtrange names of Maſtino, Cangrande, and Canſignorio is explained by the family creſt, which is a dog's head crowned. It was adopted as the emblem of the race; it was worked on their banners; it formed the ornament of their ſwords and bucklers. It is every where introduced into their monuments, and ſupports the heavy ſarcophagus.

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a province of the Venetian Republic.

Though the love of illuſtrious birth exiſts in Italy, as in every other part of the world, the total want of it has never proved a bar to the ſucceſs of a fortunate adventurer. Legitimacy, too, which was ſo early eſtabliſhed as eſſential to legal ſucceſſion in the reſt of Europe, was wholly diſregarded in Italy. It was not till the ſubjection of the Peninſula to the Spaniſh crown that titles of honour, irreproachable pedigree, and the laws of primogeniture, were adopted as indiſpenſable badges of nobility.

The tombs of the Scaligers, the moſt romantic and the moſt magnificent in exiſtence, are crowded within the narrow precincts of the cemetery of Santa Maria Antica, the pariſh church of the Palace, the ancient ſeat of government in which the

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Scaligers firſt fixed their reſidence. Though much confined, nothing can be more fortunate than their poſition, ſurrounded by ſtriking and beautiful objects. The lofty tower, the ancient palace, the dilapidated church, the projecting balcony ſupported on maſſive brackets, the mouldering ſhield, with the weed and the wild flower peeping from every interſtice, unite to form a combination of beauty and harmony which is heightened and illuminated by the bright Italian ſun which ſhines over the whole.

The tombs, though ſtanding in the open air and in the moſt crowded part of the city, defended only by a ſcreen of ſlight and elaſtic iron-work, have ſuſtained no injury in a capital which is alſo a fortreſs, the ſcene of frequent civil brawls, often diſputed obſtinately with an enemy, and taken and retaken by ſtorm.

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They are aptly deſcribed by Forſyth (tour in Italy, p. 352) as "models of the moſt elegant Gothic, light, open, ſpiry, full of ſtatues caged in niches; yet, ſlender as they ſeem, theſe tombs have ſtood entire for five hundred years in a public ſtreet, the frequent theatre of ſedition."

The earlier tombs are ſtern and heavy; the claſſic ſarcophagus of the Romans, within whoſe ponderous and marble jaws are inurned, according to tradition, the founders of the dynaſty, Maſtino I., Alberto, Bartolomeo and Alboino Della Scala.

The firſt of theſe is aſſigned to Maſtino, who was raiſed, as has been already noticed, by acclamation to the rank of Captain General of the People, and who, after a reign of ſixteen years, was treacherouſly murdered near his own reſidence; the memory of which crime is ſtill preſerved in the name of the

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place where it occurred, Il Volto Barbaro.

In the ſecond ſarcophagus are interred the remains of Albert, the brother, ſucceſſor, and avenger of Maſtino. The ſides and lid of the ſarcophagus are adorned with ſculptured ſhields and a ſacred ſubject in low relief.

The third is aſſigned, but without certainty, to Bartolomeo, the third of his houſe who reigned in Verona, but ſtill with no other title than Captain of the People. He reigned but for two years, from 1302 to 1304. He had the reputation of being a prudent and amiable prince, and his premature loſs was regretted by his ſubject fellow citizens. But his greateſt claim on the intereſt of poſterity is, that during his reign the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet occurred, a tale which was commemorated in Italy, both in proſe and verſe, before

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Shakeſpeare gave it a world-wide celebrity. He is the "Eſcalus, Prince of Verona," of the play.[1]

The fourth of theſe maſſive tombs contains the bones of Alboino Della Scala, the ſon of Albert I. Though there is no inſcription, the inſignia of the houſe of Scala are ſculptured on the lid, and on the alluſive ladder is perched the Imperial eagle, to denote the favour of the Emperor of Germany, and the Ghibeline partialities of the lords of Verona, upon whom the title of Imperial Vicar was now beſtowed.

"Che in ſu la Scala poſta il ſanto 'uccello."[2]

The moſt remarkable tombs are

[1] Shakeſpeare, though adopting an Italian plot, derived his knowledge of the tale from a French tranſlation. The name of Scala, becomes Eſcale in French: hence the Engliſh termination of Eſcalus. The ſame name occurs again in "Meaſure for Meaſure."

[2] Dante, Par°. c. xvii.

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thoſe of Cangrande, Maſtino II., and Canſignorio. The tomb of Cangrande, whom Dante calls "il Gran Lombardo,"[1] is placed beneath a canopy and above the door of the church. The body lies in a ſarcophagus in the robes of peace in which he was interred, while his figure on horſeback, armed at all points exactly cap-à-pie, and like the ghoſt in Hamlet with his beaver up, ſurmounts the canopy. He died too ſoon for his glory, at the premature age of thirty-eight. Had he lived longer, it has been thought he might have realized thoſe prophetic promiſes that "the wizard Michael Scott,"[2] pronounced at his birth, which hiſtorians have more ſoberly repeated, and revived the Lombard kingdom of Italy.

[1] Lo primo tuo refugio e 'l primo oſtello
Sarà la corteſia del gran Lombardo.
Par°. c. xvii.

[2] Par°. c. xxvii.

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The tomb of Maſtino II., is more elaborate, more coſtly, and more impoſing than that of Cangrande. The body repoſes beneath a lofty canopy on a ſarcophagus raiſed on pillars above the ground. Saints and martyrs guard the ſepulchre, and low reliefs, repreſenting the crimes that man is prone to, and the calamities which are their conſequence; the origin of evil, the toil and travail inflicted as a curſe on his poſterity, the firſt murder and the ſenſuality of Noah, are ſculptured on its ſides and on the marble canopy. The new diſpenſation is alſo illuſtrated, and the redemption of the world and the great atonement are figured forth in the Crucifixion and the Reſurrection.

Maſtino II. was the nephew of Cangrande, and, with his nephew Albert II., who had alſo been aſſociated with his uncle on the

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throne, began his reign in 1329, and cloſed it in 1351. His ambition was equal to that of his uncle Cangrande, but his ability was leſs; and before he cloſed his reign, ſymptoms were already viſible that the ſceptre of his houſe would ſoon be transferred into other and more powerful hands.

The tomb of Canſignorio is the largeſt, the moſt impoſing, and moſt magnificent of the race.

The deſign is borrowed and amplified from the tombs of his immediate predeceſſors, already deſcribed.

Like that of Maſtino, the ſarcophagus on which the ſtatue of the defunct lies ſtretched is raiſed on pillars and ſurmounted by a canopy, upon which ſtands an equeſtrian ſtatue, fully armed and with lance in reſt. Guardian angels and ſainted warriors ſtand around, and claim the

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departed chief for their client. St. George, St. Martin, St. Valentine and St. Lewis have each their ſeparate niche and canopy. The Virgin Mary and the Saviour beſtow their benedictions, and the cardinal virtues are ſculptured on pinnacles above the canopies. If the page of hiſtory and the tale of tradition may be credited, the prayers and interceſſions of this celeſtial brotherhood were indeed neceſſary to ſecure the acceptance of their wayward client. Canſignorio raiſed himſelf to the ſovereignty by a crime, and ſecured the ſucceſſion by another committed on his death bed, to his two natural ſons Bartolomeo and Antonio.

With theſe two princes, the firſt of whom was murdered by the hand of the laſt, the race expired inglorioufly in the year 1388.

The following lines were written

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in the year 1832, after the diſturbances which followed, the French revolution had been quieted by the military occupation of the whole of the Italian Peninſula by the Auſtrians. They were originally printed in a miſcellany called the "Tribute," edited by the late Lord Northampton, a work which had little or no circulation, and is unknown except to thoſe who originally ſubſcribed for it. Theſe lines will, I believe, be wholly new to moſt of our members.

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The Tombs of the Scaligers at Verona.

(By Robert Henry Cheney.)

Where Verona's towers look down
On the valleys once her own,
Though her glory long has fled,
And the crown has left her head;
Traveller, there thou ſtill may'ſt trace
Relics of a royal race.
Many a marble tomb is there,
Many a niche of ſculpture rare,
Many a fretted canopy,
Where in death the mighty lie,
Princes of a race gone by.
In that lofty pillar'd ſhrine
Reſts the chief of Scala's line:
There to guard the holy ground,
Sainted warriors ſtand around,
Imaged in the ſculptured ſtone;
Soldiers they of Chriſt alone,
Who, their Chriſtian warfare done,
Wear the crown their valour won.
On the mimic mail impreſs'd,
Still the croſs adorns each breaſt;
And aloft each martial hand
Raiſes ſtill his threatening brand,

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Swift to ſlay, and ſtrong to ſave,
Meet to guard the warrior's grave.

They have borne this mortal coil,
Stain'd by blood and worn by toil;
They have known the paſſions' force
Which beſet the warrior's courſe,
Envy, hate, and wrath, and fear,
Vainly dogg'd their bright career;
Thirſt of power and love of gain
Spread their gilded ſnares in vain:
They have triumph'd over ſin,
Frauds without and luſts within.
They who ſtood the beſt can tell
How to pity thoſe who fell.
Saintly band, a bleſſing crave
For a brother warrior's grave!
Soon his race of glory run,
Low has ſunk the Scala's ſun;
High he kept his heavenly way,
Bright his noon, but brief his day,
Not one lingering gleam of light
Left to gild the covering night.
All the Scala's power and pride
Frail and mouldering marbles hide;
And the ſtranger's iron hand
Rules the Scala's conquer'd land.

Hero ſaints, upraiſed on high,
Models to men's wavering eye,
How to live and how to die;

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Rouſe ye now the wiſe and brave,
Warn them from the warrior's grave,
That the warrior's crown to ſhare
They the warrior's fate muſt dare:
Ye who would be Freedom's friends,
Learn how pure are Freedom's ends.
Selfiſh aims thoſe ends obſcure not,
Foreign aids thoſe ends endure not;
By patriot hands her work is wrought,
By patriot blood her triumphs bought;
Ye, who would be great and free,
Firſt muſt merit Liberty;
Then may ye Freedom's banner wave,
And proudly aſk a warrior's grave.

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MRS. HARCOURT'S DIARY OF THE COURT OF KING GEORGE III.

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MRS. HARCOURT'S DIARY

OF THE COURT OF KING GEORGE III.

FROM THE RECOVERY OF THE KING FEB. 1789.[1]

COL. DIGBY writes from Kew the Chancellor has ſeen the King, and is much pleaſed. The Willis's are ſatisfied. 17 Feb. 1789.

"The King has had a good night and continues as we could wiſh this morning. Yeſterday I ſaw him at 19 Feby.

[1] Mrs. Harcourt was the wife of General, afterwards Earl Harcourt, equerry to the King. The diary begins ſomewhat earlier, but the details of the King's illneſs are more painful than intereſting; his recovery ſeems to have been mainly due to the judicious treatment of the Willis's, who had been recommended to the Queen and Mr. Pitt by Mrs. Harcourt.

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two diff^{t} times. In the morning, before he walked, the Willis's were very deſirous I ſhould go into the library where he was employed looking over papers. I was at ſome little diſtance when they told him of my coming; he quitted his papers, leaned himſelf back, extending his arms & came forward with great glee & ſaid, Ah Digby! took me by the hands & kiſſed me. The whole of his converſation was from his heart. He remarked that although he had been ſeverely afflicted few men in his high ſtation had been ſo bleſſed with friends who are ſuch from true motives of perſonal regard to him. I quitted him to bring her Majeſty down to walk with him."

The Bulletin continued to ſtate that the King was recovering. The fact was that within theſe few days he has made moſt haſty ſtrides towards perfect reſtoration of mind.

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D^r^. Willis came up to Town & went to the Chancellor at the Cabinet. It there appeared to them that the K. was too well for them to proceed in the Regency Bill. The Chancellers interview with the K. a day or two before had confirmd this. He had found him ſo well that he could not feel himſelf authorized to conclude the buſineſs or put the Seals to any act with^t^ H. M. knowledge & conſent. It was therefore determined in the Cabinet to propoſe an adjournment when the Houſe met this day. Accordingly the Chancellor moved that he could not think they were authorized to proceed under ſuch circumſtances & therefore propoſed adj^d^ to Tueſday 24^th^. As he announced this intention on firſt coming in, the oppoſition retired to the Prince's Chamber to conſult & agreed to acquieſc quietly to a motion they dared not oppoſe.

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19 Feb. The Chancellor went to Kew, & had near two hours Convers^{n} with the K. he ſaid he never found him more pointed, clear, or collected in his life and he could only object to his dwelling ſo much on his late illneſs. The K. aſked him about politics. The Chancellor ſaid he would anſwer any queſtions but he wiſhed H. M. would not enter much on ſuch ſubjects at preſent. It would fatigue his mind more than anything. He knew it by experience having once had a delirious fever which would not permit him to ſettle to buſineſs for a conſid. time afterw^{ds}.

Lady H. told me ſhe was ſure the K. was getting over his prejudice againſt M^{r} Pitt. That he had told the P^{ss} Royal that he was angry with him becauſe at the beginning of his illneſs he had brought D^{r} Addington to him. She anſwered

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very properly that Mr Pitt had thought him the beſt Phyſician & had great faith in him—he had meant it from kindneſs to H. M. The K. ſeemed pleaſed & was ſatisfied with the anſwer. Pss Royal has I find acquired great weight with him. Her attentions before his illneſs had gained his heart & he ſhewed her much partiality at the beginning of it before he was ſeparated from his family.

Princeſs Auguſta's letter to Miſs Goldſworthy. 20 Feb.

I have the pleaſure my deareſt Gooly of telling you we had the happineſs of a Viſit from my dear Papa. Laſt night he came up ſtairs at 7 and ſtaid till ½ paſt 9 Thank God my deareſt Goully for this Comfort. Thank God for his great mercy to us. I am ſo very happy that I really could hardly beleive my eyes

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when I ſaw him: he was ſo compoſed, ſo kind, ſo exactly what you and all our real friends could wiſh. The Gentlemen below declared they never ſaw him better than when he quitted us, and he has had a Charming night of 7 hours ſleep. Your moſt affect. my deareſt Goully

AUGUSTA SOPHIA.

22 Feb. Lady C. Finch ſaid the King ſhowed the greateſt affection to the Queen. It was the attention of a lover. He ſeemed to delight in making her preſents — kiſſed her hand & ſhowd every mark of tenderneſs. I was juſt with Lady C. when Gen[l] H. came to fetch me to M[r] Smelts houſe ſaying the King was waiting to ſee me. I flew up ſtairs where I found the King & before I could ſpeak he caught me in his arms & kiſſed me, which I own I did him on both ſides of his face,

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telling him how happy I was & how I thanked God for this bleſſing of ſeeing him well, yet hardly knowing what I ſaid ſo overcome was I with joy. He ſtaid about ½ an hour in which time he was exactly what I had ever ſeen him when in good ſpirits. He talked much of Windſor, ſaid it was his only home, he knew no other—ſpoke of the great regret he felt in quitting it. He looked very thin but was in excellent ſpirits making his uſual jokes & looked full of kindneſs & benevolence He had met in the Gardens a little deſerted Child — & ordered it to be taken care of at his own Expence, — when Gen[l] H. met him he found at the Gardener's dormi[y] liſtening to this Child ſaying its prayers & Catechiſm. Gen[l] H. removed from the Ks. mind a prejudice as to the Queen's leaving him at Windſor before he was removed to Kew by fully explaining the plan

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having been ſo arranged by the phyſician & the King declared himſelf highly pleaſed & ſatisfied.

Feb. 23d. Mr Smelt came hence to tell us that he had juſt been at the palace that the King was remarkably well & that Dr Willis finding he had no remains of his complaint had been opening to him any thing which had paſſed. That the Dr had done it in the moſt judicious & pointed manner and that the King had borne it with a degree of fortitude & dignity that was wonderful. That he was now eager to ſee Mr Pitt—in ſhort all was well. He ſaid Willis's independent ſpirit enabled him to riſk that which even the Chancellor ſhirked.

The King & Queen afterwards came together to ſee me. She was dreadfully reduced & ſhewed me her ſtays which would wrap twice over. The King had appointed the

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P. & D. of Y. to come to Kew. They kept him waiting ſeveral hours, yet Willis was not anxious—having now prepared the Kings mind. He ſaid he had told the K. of the intended Regency & what day it was to have finally paſſed. That he was ſtruck as he ought with the mercy of God, who had reſtored him at ſo critical a juncture, & that he expreſſed unfeigned Gratitude to the Divine author of all Good. Said he felt ſo impreſſed with it, & with ſuch perfect reſignation to the will of him who had afflicted him that he could bear any reverſe or any thing vexatious he might have to know, as under ſuch circumſtances he ought to bear it.

He told his Majeſty the great part Mr Pitt had acted & his obligations to him. The King told Mr Smelt afterwards he would rather have been obliged to the Nation and next

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to the Nation to his Fred^k than to any Individual, but he ſeemed on the whole reconciled to M^r Pitt, anxious to ſee him & likely to receive him kindly. He knew perfectly how difficult had been the ſtruggle of Willis & his Sons, and ſaid, had they cruſhed you, Docter, they would have cruſhed me—we muſt have fallen together.

At three the P. & D. of Y. arrived. They were ſhewn up to the Queen. Col. Digby went to tell the K. who went immediately up ſtairs. He ſtopped at the door for a moment to wipe away a tear. Saying to Digby, the H. of Brunſwick uſed to make a Rule never to ſhed tears. (I underſtand that in this he alluded to Geo. 1^st whoſe character he always ſpeaks highly of & ſeemed to reſpect). On going in however he caught the Princes in his arms with great affection. Both ſhed tears. He

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ſaid he always loved & ſhould always love them. The Prince ſaid this was the happieſt day of his life. The King purpoſely confined the Converſation to common Subjects, & the Queen's dinner being announced they took leave in ½ an hour & went away. They were evidently ſurprized at the King's perfect ſelf poſſeſſion nor did he betray the ſlighteſt remains of his Malady.

The Queen deſired Gen[l] H. to go to M[r] Pitt & tell him all which had paſſed between them. The King & herſelf & the Chancellor, deſiring him to come next day, aſſured of his moſt cordial reception. M[r] Pitt expreſſed himſelf very grateful to the Queen but hoped the zeal of his friends had not led them to preſs him upon the King. He ſeemed to feel that properly & with dignity conſcious of his own rectitude and the

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handſome part he had acted, reſting ſecure upon theſe grounds.

23 Feb. In the evening the King wrote the Chancellor a letter and alſo one to M^r^ Pitt—to the latter he expreſſed himſelf with great kindneſs ſaying how he rejoiced to renew again his Correſpondence with him and deſiring to ſee him again the next day.

24 Feby. M^r^ Pitt went to Kew & was received by the King with the greateſt kindneſs. He opened particularly on every ſubject, and M^r^ P. left him after a long Converſation perfectly ſatisfied with his reception, and with the ſtate in which he found his friend. The Chancellor alſo ſaw him, but behaved coolly to the Willis's perhaps ſuſpecting they had opened the Kings Eyes to all that had paſſed. The ſame day the King had a moſt affect. meeting with the D. of Glo'ſter—he aſked much ab^t^ his Siſter the D^ss^ of Brunſwick The

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D. told him how much ſhe had been afflicted from the death of her daughter the C^tss^ of Würtemburg who it was ſuſpected had been poiſoned by her huſbands means from whom ſhe had been ſeparated. This accuſation was afterwards found to be very unjuſt. The ſeparation was cauſed by the bad behaviour of the Princeſs which was encouraged by the Empreſs of Ruſſia who afterd^s^ confined her in a Caſtle in Ruſſia. After two years confinement ſhe died of a 7 hour's illneſs. It was imagined from ſome circumſtances that ſhe was poiſoned. Certain it is that her huſband and her parents applyd for the body. The Empreſs refuſed to give it up, and therefore if the ſuſpicion of poiſon has a foundation, the ſtigma reſts on the Empreſs.

Earl Granville ſaid he had ſeen the King's letter to M^r^ Pitt—that it Feb. 25.

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was a Model of good writing & ought to be handed down as ſuch to poſterity. The King at all times was an uncommonly good writer & with perfect eaſe to himſelf In buſineſs he always ſhewed a ſingular quickneſs & Cleverneſs — & this letter was in his beſt ſtile.

The King ſaw L^d^ Stafford & L^d^ Weymouth & the Bullatin ſent to London—ſtating his M^r^'s health had been improving for ſome time paſt & he appeared this day free from Complaint.

26th. The D. of York came alone & had another interview with the K. —but the Q. was preſent & the Converſation general M^r^ Pitt alſo came & had a 2^d^ Conv^n^ of great length with the King. He came out highly delighted with what had paſſed, and at finding himſelf ſo perfectly well recv^d^ The interview had been to the greateſt degree cordial. The K.

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expreſſed himſelf obliged to Mr Pitt & in the warmeſt terms of approbn of his Conduct, ſpoke of the Confidence he had ever had in him, & of his perfect Confidence in his Conduct & his wiſh to leave buſineſs in his hands. That he hoped they were now united for the reſt of his life, and that nothing but death could ſeparate them. Thus if the Chancellor had any intention of undermining Mr Pitt, it was glorioufly fruſtrated, and I muſt ſay (under Heaven) by the endeavours of thoſe who wiſhed well to their King & Country. Among whom none were more active than Genl H. Mr Smelt & Col. Digby—and aſſiſted by Dr Willis who firſt opened truths to the King's Ear.

The King diſmiſſed moſt of his 27.
pages on penſions and retained Brown for his Good Conduct as his Chief page.

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2 March. Mr Pitt was with the King an hour & a half. The D. of York had an audience alſo tho' not alone.

5. Every day now from 3 to 6 of the principal men came down to make their reſpects—a Contrivance this to accuſtom the King to them, & to prove to Parlt there could be no queſtion of his Sanity for they all returned fully ſatisfied.

8. The King had written ſome days ago to his foreign correſpondents. To the Kg of Pruſſia he expreſſed high Satisfaction at the Cordial union of the 2 Countries & ſaid he hoped to ſee him in the courſe of the ſummer as he meant to go to Hanover. The D. of York made a ſtrong requeſt for a private audience which the King declined in writing. He gave orders to diſmiſs D. of Queenſbery as Lord of the Bed Chamber. And took the Regt & Goldſtick from Ld Lothian. He

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was diſpoſed to remove L^d^ Carteret from the Poſt office.

Memorable was the day when the K. recovered his Gov^t^. The Speech was read to both Houſes by Commiſſion. The Addreſs to the King in the Lords by Lords Cheſterfield & Cathcart, that to the Q. by Lords Morton & Hawkeſbury. In the Commons the Kings by Lord Gower & M^r^ Yorke That to the Q. by Lord Graham. Fox moved one to the Prince which was negatived. In the Morning the K. went to Windſor & returned to Kew. He was greeted with burſts of Joy. In the Evening all London was illuminated. The Q. & P^ss^ came thro' the Park in the Evening to L^d^ Bathurſts, & were taken thro' the principal Squares & Streets by Lady Harcourt & L^y^ Weymouth & ret^d^ to Kew where her M. had prepared an illumination in the Court of Kew Palace for the King. 10 March.

The Royal Family went to reſide 28 March.

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at Windſor. The Acclamations with which they were received were beyond deſcription.

16. Thoſe about the Court were very uneaſy at the Kings hurried manner, & the captious temper which he betrayed evidently produced by the unuſual buſtle & the premature intercourſe with the public which Willis much deprecated, but could not delay in the Critical juncture of the propoſed Regency. He was full of all kinds of plans for travelling building &c. and talked inceſſantly nor could thoſe about him even venture to remonſtrate.

17. The French Ambaſſador called on Lady H. to ſay that he was commanded by the K. & Q. of France to congratulate H. M. on his Recovery and to expreſs their reſpect & admiration for her (the Q.'s) Conduct. He was alſo ordered to make a moſt ſplendid Banquet on the occaſion

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& came to aſk her Majeſty's preſence & the names of thoſe ſhe would Chooſe to be preſent. The Queen was much embarraſſed as ſhe knew not the King's diſpoſition about it. She had the ſame embarraſſment ab^{t} White's Ball given in honour of the K^{s} Recovery to which L^{d}, Cheſterfield came to invite the R. Family.

The King gave the 8th Reg^{t} of Cavalry to Gen^{l} Laſcelles, going down to the Equerry's Room & making them all fill a Bumper & drink the health of the Col. of the 8th, at the ſame time bowing to Gen^{l} L. who ſat at table & was thus firſt acquainted with his good fortune.

The Princeſſes all ſhared to day 18.
in Commis^{rs} great mixture of joy and anxiety. P^{ss} Auguſta ſhed tears at the expectation of D^{r} Willis quitting them—they looked to him almoſt as a parent. *We* all abuſed the

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London Doctors & gave a double doſe to Warren & Baker.

18 Mar. We heard to day that the Emperor during the K. illneſs had ſent to his Miniſters at Hanover to oppoſe any Regent who was appointed, for that he intended to appoint one himſelf, & he was not yet determined whether it ſhould be the P. of W. or not—thus burning his fingers as uſual with Concerns with which he had no ſort of buſineſs.

20. „ The increaſing ſtrength of the Kings mind was the beſt hope,—he had already ſatisfied himſelf of the injuſtice of his diſpleaſure towards Gen[l] H. under a notion of his having been the cauſe of his removal to Windſor. It was alſo evident that his prejudice againſt M[r] Pitt had gradually worn away. P[ss] Auguſta ſaid that when the K. firſt ſaw M[r] Pitt at Kew he told him he knew that ſince that time (his re-

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moval thither) he had been much obliged to him, and that he had done well by him, but that he ſhould ever think of him in the ſame point of view in regard to his behaviour in promoting his going to Kew & that nothing could change him.

The Queen's Spirits ſeem ſtill to flag and tho' the K. pays her much attention her manner ſhows ſhe is very uneaſy — and probably his conſtant hurry, & impatience of temper greatly contribute to her anxiety. 20th.

The King having determined to give ſome great Entertainments at Windſor deſired to have the liſt of thoſe who had ſupported the Gov^t^ in the late debates; in order to exclude thoſe who had deſerted him in his affliction. 22.

The 1^st^ Drawing R^m^ very fully attended. The Ladies all with bandeaus &c. with God ſave the King. 26.

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Fox, Burke, Sheridan, Warren, and others paſſed unnoticed by the Queen —ſhe would not even look at them.

28 Mar. Lord Hawkeſbury told me that Lord Sydney ſent the Speech for the King to anſwer to the addreſs down to Kew. The King not quite approving it, made another himſelf and a better, which was entered in the Kings own handwriting in the H. of Lords—a ſingle inſtance of the kind. Speaking of the diſagreement between the Chancellor and M^r^ Pitt he ſaid it aroſe from the deſire of the former to graſp all & govern all. That he had been often the means of keeping them ſtrait even in this laſt Regency Bill, when the Chancellor was giving offices away he prevailed on him to make one of his fineſt ſpeeches that very day for the Cauſe. He ſaid their coolneſs was of much longer ſtanding than Pepper Arden's appointment.

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A Grand Concert & Supper given in S^t George's Hall to all the firſt people in the kingdom. The ladies all in garter blue. The R^l family ſat at the top of the Hall (on the *Dais*). Prince & D. of York there but hardly ſpoke to any of the family. P^ss Royal ſaid ſhe did not much care for this neglect, ſo long as he was reſpectful to her parents. He had never been kind to her. 2 Apl.

Fete at Brookes's 21^st & thankſgiving at S^t Pauls 23^rd. 23.

The King ſaid to the Duke of Gloſter he was not equal to the going to Hanover this year. He laid his illneſs much to heart, ſaying the conduct of Parl^t had been like taking out a Statute of Lunacy againſt him, & he thought Miniſters very wrong in bringing forward the Regency. They might have compromiſed—& had it paſſed, no power on Earth ſhould have prevailed on him to 15 May.

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reſume the Gov^t. What then was our Eſcape? How much we owe to D^r Willis who was ſo entirely the Cauſe of the Suſpenſion of the Bill, inſiſting on Miniſters ſeeing the King & rode up to Town on the Morning after the 2^d Reading of the Bill to tell the Chancellor that the King was in ſuch a ſtate it could not be leſs than Treaſon if he went on with the Bill.

28th. D^r Willis ſaid he had very kind anſwers to two letters he had written to the King as to his health but a 3^d now ſent had not been acknowledged. He was very indignant at M^r Pitts offer of £1000 a year to him at his age.

25th. Duel between D. of York & Col. Lennox, owing to the cruel inſult offered to the latter; the D. of Yorks whole Conduct greatly lowered him among his friends.

30 May. Monſ. de la Lucerne the French

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Ambaſſador gave the fete ordered by the King & Queen of France to the Queen & Roy[l] Family. 2 June.

The Marquis del Campo Spaniſh Ambaſſador did the ſame at Ranelagh. The moſt ſplendid of all the fetes yet given—it coſt £12,000. The P. & D. of Y. merely made their appear[ce] & went away before Supper.

July. The King Queen & 3 Elder Princeſſes went to Weymouth —they ſtayed a few days at Lyndhurſt & ſaw Southampton on their way to Weymouth where they had Glouceſter Houſe. King much improved his health by bathing. L[d] & L[y] Chatham, Sydney, Cheſterfield, &c. with them. Parties often at Sea. The Sailors delighted in the Princeſſes & ſaid they would make capital wives for ſailors & ſoldiers & other poor men. Magnificent 74, Capt. Onſlow & Southampton Fri-

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gate, Capt. Douglas, lay at Weymouth. In abt a fortnight Lady ——— arrived. She had been very ill in London probably from agitation about the K. conduct towards her, and alſo on acct of her niece Lady Diana Beauclerk's daughter going off with her Brother in law Ld Bolingbroke from her houſe. At Weymouth ſhe acted with ſuch propriety that her viſit which was much dreaded proved moſt ſerviceable, for in a ſhort time they met with perfect eaſe & it became mere friendſhip & ſo continued afterwards — previous to her coming ſhe had ſome explanations with the King which entirely deſtroyed his hopes of ſucceeding with her. The Archp of Canterbury ſpoke to her ſeriouſly on the ſubject. The Royal Family went to Exeter & Plymouth. Hundreds of thouſands of the people teſtified their loyalty. They were delighted

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to trace his footſteps where he had trodden. Almoſt every Village erected an arch or other mark of their tenderneſs & affection. Saltram L^d^ Boringdons was lent him. He alſo viſited M^r^ Edgecombe, M^r^ Acroydds, Baſtards, &c. & witneſſed a naval fight off Plymouth very well performed. Theſe Exertions however were too violent. The King alarmed his family by becoming much indiſpoſed. He was ſoon fatigued, his legs ſwelled towards night. He expoſed himſelf to the exceſſive hot weather. But on his return to Weymouth he greatly recovered his health. He was perſuaded to give up many other excurſions, & to omit going to Bath & Briſtol as he meditated, & paſſing a day or two at L^d^ Bath's at Longleate & at L^d^ Ayleſbury's near Marlbro. He returned to Windſor on the triumphal arch & Illuminations

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18 Sept. welcomed his return, much fatter ſtronger & in better ſpirits than when he left it. The Queen's health alſo was much reſtored by this Tour, after the Shock ſhe had ſuſtained by the Events of laſt winter. The Duke of York had come without ſtopping from Brighton to viſit the King at Saltram, ſtaid only a day returned ſtrait to Brighton ſleeping only in the Chaiſe, played a match at Cricket there & then ſet off with the P. of W. for York Races. They were ſplendidly entertained by L^d^ Fitz-William at Wentworth Houſe —1000 Cards were iſſued, 360 came. The fatigue produced the Duke a ſerious illneſs at York, being already weakened by having recently had the meazles.

21 Sept. The King hunting to day told Lord H. much ab^t^ his illneſs—he complained of their having moved him to Kew. D^r^ Willis and his

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Son Tom called at S[t] Leonards, having been very kindly received by the King on their coming up on purpoſe to pay their duty. They aſſured L[d] H. of the Kings perfect health, & that there was not the leaſt fear of relapſe. D[r] Willis only now learnt that he was to be rewarded with £1000 a year for 20 years— £500 a year for the life of D[r] John. Tom Willis was to have his Expences p[d] & to be provided for in the Church. D[r] W. allowance was to be from the Kings purſe not from Parl[t]. The other Phyſicians had their Expences paid as follows:—

D[r] Geo. Baber .	£13,000
D[r] Warren . .	1,000
Reynolds . . .	900
Pepys & Giſburne .	700

The King ſpeaking of his Illneſs ſaid that if the Regency had once

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taken place he ſhould have felt it as a Statute of Lunacy to be taken out againſt him and that nothing ſhould have induced him to take the Crown again.[1] He expreſſed his diſlike of its burthen, & ſaid he kept it only out of Gratitude to his Subjects to be of uſe to his Country. Theſe as well as every other ſentiment prove how much he ſpoke truth in his illneſs when he uſed to ſay he would be a Berkſhire Gentleman and no King—we cannot doubt that to be the real wiſh of his heart, and that he would willingly abdicate were it not for his love for his people, and his feeling that to continue to be their Monarch is a duty he owes them.

Oct. 8. A very full drawing Room—the firſt ſince the Recovery. All the

[1] He could have gone to his poſſeſſions in Hanover.

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Princes there. They had been the preceding week at the firſt Levee ſince. The King perfectly well & Cheerful. Lord Waldegrave died after a ſhort illneſs at Lord Ayleſfords at Packington. The Lady Waldegraves ſix Siſters came to Windſor on their way to conſole Lady W. who was too near her time with her 6th Child to be moved from thence. Nothing could exceed the tenderneſs of the King & all the family on this occaſion. They expreſſed it by abundance of tears. The King gave them the moſt endearing proofs of his kindneſs in this affliction.

The Intelligence of the K. & Q. of France being ſeized by the Mob & carried from Verſailles to Paris juſt arrived. The Queen being on Monday at St Leonards ſaid that whatever faults ſhe had ſhe could not but truly pity her—ſhe had Oct. 23.

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more than paid in ſufferings for them. She thought her preſent Conduct had great merit & her former errors much Excuſe. She was educated under the ſtricteſt mother (the late Empreſs). She was not allowed to ſpeak act or think for herſelf before ſhe came to France. If ſhe offended her mother the puniſhment inflicted was to ſay ſuch a number of prayers—& that by this means devotion & principle were made bugbears. That the Empreſs never made companions of her daughters, but kept them at the greateſt diſtance & that from this Situation of reſtraint ſhe came to Paris where all was liberty & pleaſure—and this too at a very early age. I could not but think that in this account the Queen with[t] perceiving it in part Condemned her own Conduct towards her daughters for with the kindeſt intentions

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towards them it certainly ſeems as if ſhe kept them at too great a diſtance —preventing that confidence that would be of ſuch advantage to them & obliging them to find more pleaſure in the Society of other friends than with their Mother. But the Queen's good principle & judgement rendered it impoſſible for her ever to make uſe of ſuch puniſhments as ſhe mentioned. They could ſeldom have required any Correction. I really knew not ſuch Girls in any rank of life. They are all amiable in their diff^{t} ways—& they are very different. P^{ss} Royal has exceſſive ſenſibility — a great ſenſe of Injury—a great ſenſe of her own Situation — much timidity, without wanting reſolution ſhe wants preſence of mind from the Extreme Quickneſs of her feelings which ſhew themſelves in her perpetual bluſhes. She has excellent

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Judgement wonderful memory & great application. Certainly what may be called a ſtrong underſtanding & perfectly good principle. She is unjuſtly conſidered proud— and a peculiarity in her temper is miſtaken for a leſs ſweetneſs than it deſerves. Her Senſe of Injury & her humility are alike miſtaken. But thoſe ſhe loves and who love her cannot be miſtaken—& when ſhe profeſſes friendſhip ſhe is warm conſtant & affectionate.

Of P^ss^ Auguſta I am leſs able to judge than of the P^ss^ Royal. She is in general more beloved & I think ſhe has more intimate friends than the P^ss^.

Sept. 20, 1789. The Prince was at Frogmore & was hardly Civil to any one, tho' he ſeemed to pay more Court to the King. He did not ſpeak to L^d^ Harcourt, to whom he had been very civil always during the K^gs^ late

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Illneſs, until he was the firſt to tell the Prince the King would certainly recover. The Queen & Princeſſes this Evening were evidently afraid of him.

The Duke of Clarence came to ſee the King from Richmond where he was then living and paying his Bills regularly every Tueſday Morning. Sept. 21.

The king hunting made Gen^{l} Harcourt converſe the whole time as if to keep off the Prince who does not ſpeak to the Gen^{l} ſince the Illneſs. The king again talked of the coercion uſed & aſked how could a man ſleep with his arms pinioned behind him in a ſtrait waiſt^{t} & his legs tied to the Bed poſts. He ſeemed to treat it as the delirium of a Fever, & this is the leaſt revolting idea it is proper to encourage. Oct. 14.

The Queen was very civil & the king after talking with him came for-

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ward & looked on his daughters with peculiar tenderneſs & then went to the window & app^{d} to ſhed tears— as tho' he was ſoon to part with one of them. P^{ss} Eliz. ſaid ſome years ago her Father had refuſed the P. of Denmark for P^{ss} Auguſta, & Lady Harcourt told her, he had alſo refuſed ſome years ago the P. of Brunſwick for P^{ss} Royal—that a diſpoſition to receive him had ſince been hinted, but not taken. At the Draw^{g} R^{m} I talked with the Duke of Gloſter ab^{t} the Prince's ſtrange intention of ſettling them in Eng^{ld} with which he appeared particularly diſguſted, & ſaid he thought the King had not looked out for Continental alliances from a notion they would be unwilling to leave England. He fancied the P. of Pruſſia would not have been accepted. He knew but little, being lately from abroad, & only after his return has

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he been on a cordial footing with the King ſince his marriage or with the Queen till ſince the King's Illneſs.

The Duke of York called on the Queen, & appeared deſirous to pleaſe her, but ſhe did not much encourage him under a perſuaſion that all his late attentions to the King aroſe from the preſſure of his debts which he was anxious to get paid, as the Prince's had lately been by Parliament. Nov. 19.

Duke of Gloſter called at S^t^. Leonards—a long converſation & various ſchemes for the Alliances abroad of his nieces. He ſaid the D^ss^ of Brunſwick had long & ardently deſired to ſee her Son married to the P^ss^ Royal but the King had always diſliked the Idea—he had a ſtrong prejudice againſt the alliance & againſt his ſiſter. He had even lately ſaid that one of her laſt letters was 21.

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the pleaſanteſt he had ever received from her becauſe there was no ſcheme in it. He doubted the P. Royal of Pruſſia being diſpoſed to any ſuch alliance. He thought the P. of Denmark a very deſirable match, but doubted his diſpoſition to marry. The King of Sweden's Brother Duke of Oſtrogothland was then mentio^{d}. The Duke had ſpent 6 months with him at Naples & thought highly of his character.

The Duke ſaid that the Duke of Saxe Gotha a very good man had when in Eng^{d} fallen in love with the P^{ss} Royal, his own wife being then ſuppoſed dying. In which caſe he could have undoubtedly married her, but tho' afflicted with fits there was no proſpect of a vacancy. In concluſion he renewed the expreſſion of his diſguſt at the ſtrange ſcheme of the Prince to ſettle his ſiſter in England. The King had often ſtated

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his belief to him that they were totally unwilling to go abroad that they were the comfort of his life, but he thought his Majeſty ſhould be apprized of their real ſentiments.

He ſpoke of the Prince & D. of York's debts as very preſſing. He ſaid the marriage between the P. & Mrs. Fitz. was without much love on either ſide. He had his amuſements elſewhere but he had much conſideration for her. She was ſometimes jealous & diſcontented; her temper violent tho' apparently ſo quiet. He hoped the P. would remain in her hands as ſhe was no political intriguer & probably if they parted he would fall into worſe hands. Speaking of the proper manner in which Lady Pembroke had behaved at Weymouth, the Duke ſaid he had heard of a wicked plot of the Princes, to gain over Lady P. & govern the King thro' her

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thus overſetting the Queen's Influence. They had kept it carefully ſecret, & kept it out of their papers, but now they had diſpoſed of the ſcheme, a few ſquibs had lately appeared.

He (the Duke) regretted the little communications he himſelf had with the King and his family. He ſaid how much he wiſhed to live more with them but that tho' very kind to him, he had not encouragement enough from them for him to be able to do it. He told me that they were very kind to him when they did meet, that whenever he ſaw the King or came to him at Windſor he received him with warm affection, & ſeemed glad to ſee him whether he came often or ſeldom. But that he could not find out whether he wiſhed him to come often becauſe he never on parting expreſſed a deſire for his return, nor

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if he had been long abſent did he ever expreſs regret at not having ſeen him. He ſaid the unfortunate diſtance at which he had been ever kept and the little opp^{y} he had had of living with his own family had been the orig^{l} cauſe of throwing him into other ſociety & therefore of all the misfortunes of his life (meaning his unhappy marriage). The Duke might however have conſidered that had it not been for that marriage (unhappy as it had proved) he ſh^{d} not have had the bleſſing of thoſe 2 children he ſo paſſionately loves. He told me that in regard to the Queen's former behaviour to him & the King's family, for ſhe had been blamed as the cauſe of that diſtance, he much acquitted her, as he thought the retired life the King & Queen led for the firſt many years of their marriage was entirely the King's

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doing. That it was not as ſuppoſed by the late Princeſs of Wales (his mother's) deſire. That too much blame had been laid on her on that acc[t] unjuſtly. That as far as regarded the K[gs] Education perhaps ſhe deſerved it, for it had been too much confined. That he had been kept locked up till he married & taught to have a bad opinion of the world & almoſt to dread human honour. That he was therefore delighted with having entirely under his own training a young innocent Girl of 17, for ſuch was the Queen when ſhe arrived, & that he determined ſhe ſh[d] be wholly devoted to him alone, and ſhould have no other friend or ſociety. That he knew the King on her arrival told her this, & told her that even with the P[ss] of Wales ſhe was to have as little communication as poſſible & depend on him & him alone. That except the

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Ladies of the bedchamber for ½ an hour in a week in a funeral circle, or a ceremonious drawing R^m^ ſhe never had a ſoul to ſpeak to but the King. That this continued till her firſt child the P. of Wales was born, that then the nurſe & his Governeſs Lady C. Finch coming into the Room was a little treat, but that they had ſtill for years no other ſociety till by degrees the Ladies of the Bed Chamber came more frequently, and latterly the Society for various reaſons, the Children growing up the journies &c. was much encreaſed. But this accounts for the being ſtill perhaps with leſs eaſe than one could wiſh it. It accounts alſo for the timidity of the Queen's Character. Coming over with great natural ſpirits, eagerly expecting to be Queen of a gay Court, finding herſelf confined as in a Convent, & hardly allowed to think without the

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leave of her huſband checked her ſpirits, made her fearful & cautious to an extreme, & when the time came that amuſements were allowed her her mind was formed to a diff^{t} manner of life.

30 Nov. P^{ss} Royal had heard the P. had negotiated a loan in Ireland. L^{d} Kingſborough at the Queen's lodge to night told me the P. had offered 10,000 & an Iriſh peerage after the King's death for every 5,000 paid now, but he thought even on theſe terms he could get little.

1 Dec. The *coup de grâce* (of his illneſs) was given by the D. of York's behaviour. It is ſtill the obſ^{n} of thoſe ab^{t} the King that the D. of York has faſt hold of his heart, he ſees him with marked a delight. Alas what a pity that ſuch affection ſh^{d} be ſo unworthily placed and meet with ſuch a return.

1791. March 10. Walter Editor of the Times had

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been impriſoned 16 months by proſecution of the P. & D. of Y. for ſaying the latter had ent[d] the King's apartment & purpoſely diſt[d] him during his Illneſs & for reflecting on the Prince. Yet the ſtatement quite true. The time was 2 years & the pillory, but theſe were remitted tho' quite againſt the Duke of York's will who was very violent. Jack Payne was Walter's great enemy.

The P[ss] Auguſta and the D. of Y. was now continually with the Q[n] endeavouring to regain her favour & trying to obtain it for the Prince. The Queen ſaid there were parts of his conduct ſhe could never forget, & inſtanced his ſetting Sheridan to anſwer her letters. The King had related this to M[r] Digby & ſaid tears were ſhed on both ſides. But the King looked to amendment of conduct not declarations.

I wiſh the K. was more open 1790. Jany. 21.

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with his family who love him. I wiſh he was more generous in many matters and leſs ſuſpicious of mankind's intentions, & then he would be as near perfection as human nature can admit of.

1790. Apl. 20. Pss. Royal told me the P. of Wales had won money of the D. of Bedford at Newmarket & upon the Courſe as they were riding about he called out to the Duke, You know it don't ſignify what you loſe to me as your Brother-in-law, on which the D. of Orleans ſaid, Qu'eſt que c'eſt que ça que vous lui dites la? Je l'appelle (ſaid the Prince) mon beau frère.—Qu'eſt que ça veux dire, eſt ce que la Fitzherbert a une Sœur?—Non non (ſaid the Prince) Il eſt l'amant de ma Sœur aine, il en eſt folle.

Pſs. Royal.—Her manner is now univerſally kind, and her heart feels benevolence towards everybody. Her temper is perfect. I believe ſhe can-

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not have an enemy in the world. Her apprehenſion is quick. Her conduct in the difficult ſituation ſhe has been placed in by being ever diſtinguiſhed with marked affection by her Brothers, eſpecially the Prince, has been uniformly creditable to her Judgment. She writes with an eaſe and fluency which renders her letters ſingularly entertaining. I have heard Miſs Goldſworthy compare them to Mad. de Sevigné's. Her deſire is ever to be a peace-maker—and if ſhe can procure pleaſure to others, it is the greateſt delight ſhe knows. Pſs. Auguſta adores her parents; but tho' ſhe is ever fulfilling her duty ſhe is a leſs marked character tho' I cannot exactly define why than the Pſs. Royal. Princeſs Elizth again is quite different from her two Elder Siſters. She has great good humour—quick feelings—a great deal of genius—an Imagination full of fire—much reſolution

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—much preſence of mind—the ſame ſurprizing Memory which runs thro' the family—very ſtrong affections and friendſhip—high principles & a manner which from its ſuperlative good humour pleaſes every one. She has a turn for converſation & a peculiarity of Ideas which is juſt entitled to be called wit. She writes as ſhe ſpeaks—often full of humorous conceits, and ſhe has the power of defending and ſupporting her own opinions in preſence of the Queen in a manner her Siſters cannot attempt. I ought rather to ſay a manner which the Pss Royal dares not, and the Pss Auguſta does not wiſh to attempt. Of the Beauty of the 3 Princeſſes people think differently, tho' all agree that they have a conſiderable ſhare. Pss Royal is the fineſt woman, Pss Auguſta the prettieſt, & Pss Eliz. the handſomeſt.

The 3 younger Psses are yet too

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young to form a judgement of their Characters. They promiſe to be no leſs amiable than their Siſters.

I had often heard from Gen[l] Hanaut who attended his father when he fetched the Queen from Mecklenburg Strelitz that no character ever had more natural gaiety. That during the voyage tho' it was a ſtorm & everybody elſe was ſuffering with ſickneſs and apprehenſion, the young Queen was gay & lively playing on her harpſichord and ſinging or laughing all day long. From L[y] Holderneſſe I have frequently heard of the very uncomfortable manner in which her firſt years were ſpent. The king at that time [almoſt] treating her like a Child—himſelf under the influence of his mother and L[d] Bute, & that ſometimes when he carried her to Carlton Houſe he uſed to retire with the P[ss] and L[d] Bute to hold their Council in a

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cloſet while he left the Queen ſhut up in the Room alone for hours. Till at laſt ſhe requeſted to be left at the palace and not to go with him.

1 Decr. Gen[l] Bude ſaid he had never ſpent 2 months ſo pleaſantly at Windſor as at this time. The life there was much changed ſince the King's Illneſs. He was not ſo perpetually in motion. His attendants had more time to themſelves. There was more ſociety, beſides which the King was himſelf a ſtill more pleaſing Character than formerly, he was calmer—not hurried in Converſation, as he uſed to be, but always cheerful, always in good humour. In the 2 months he had been there he had not ſeen his temper ruffled for a moment, that formerly he uſed ſometimes to ſpeak ſharply to thoſe about him. That now he never did and that his being able to get the better of that

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little haſtineſs was a ſign it never was very ſtrong. Indeed few people ever poſſeſt naturally ſo good a temper.

Lady H. who had been 3 weeks at the Lodge made preciſely the ſame Report. The King was in excellent health & ſpirits & the beſt compy in the world—ſo well informed and now ſo converſible. She thought his illneſs had been of great ſervice to him as it had made him guard his manner, and this reminded me of what Dr Willis ſaid to me while he was ill. He hoped not only to make him a healthier man, but alſo happier nay even a better man. Hume a ſurgeon at Dublin Ld Kingſborough told me during the King's Illneſs always ſaid he would recover, & gave as a reaſon that in his own practice he had 6 caſes of the like kind 4 from Cheltenham & 2 from the waters of Luran in Ireland. He

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ſaid the Seaſon was againſt him but as the Spring came on he would probably mend & ſo it proved. Being aſked if he thought he would relapſe, he ſaid no more than a man drunk with Champagne to day would be drunk a year after if he did not repeat the Doſe. Probably Cheltenham might bring on the diſeaſe but I muſt ever think the foundation was laid by vexations of various kinds.

21 March. It is a ſingular circumſtance that the D^ss^ of Saxe Gotha told the Duke of Gloſter when he was at her Court that ſhe believed her being alive was a diſapp^t^ to her huſband for he had expected her illneſs to end fatally, and ſhe knew he had ſet his heart on marrying P^ss^ Royal himſelf, who he ſaw and admired when in England. The D. of Glouceſter having told this to the P^ss^ Royal gave her the idea that as he was diſ-

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app[d] of having her himſelf he now would try to get her for his ſon, for which the D. of Gloſter ſaid M[r] Eden was then in negotiation.

Among the reaſons for the King's alteration of manner may be mentioned this quick obſervation of his peculiarities, detailed to the world by Peter Pindar & other wretches, whoſe pamphlets as well as all the newspapers he undoubtedly ſees— of the latter he is a conſtant reader. But tho' there may be more indifference in his manner & eaſe in his mind than formerly he ſtill ſeems to have much more than a common degree of benevolence & love of contributing to the happineſs of thoſe around him, when they give him an opp[y]. I ſay this becauſe the Q. and Prinſ[ses] have ſuch timidity, leſt they offend him that they keep their wiſhes too generally unknown to him, tho' it ſeems as if when laid be-

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fore him he has no greater pleaſure than in obliging them.

If he does not like a thing he certainly has a peculiar art of ſtopping the Converſation or keeping the ſubject quite off, which is very convent as the diſpencer of favours, & it enables him (tho' his manner is familiar) to keep a degree of diſtance towards his own family that prevents the perfect cordiality & confidence from which proceed the true comforts of domeſtic life. Lr. Bute taught him to think mankind all ſelfiſh & intereſted & that theſe are the entire motives of their words & actions. This has tended to repreſs the King's judgement, and to limit his obſervations. I have heard Mr. Smelt ſay he has often heard the K. lament there was not in the world a diſintereſted courtier. That it could not be. This perhaps weighed among other motives in de-

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termining Mr. Smelt never to receive pecuniary favours from the K.—induced him to give up his penſion which he had recd after he left the Govt of the Princes, & refuſe different places offered him.

Mr. Elliot the Miniſter to the Ct of Denmark aſſured me the Prince would be delighted at the propoſal of marrying an Engliſh Princeſs & on my aſſurance that I thought he would not fail if it was negotiated, he inſtantly determined to write to the Prſs. Frederica on the ſubject at Copenhagen.

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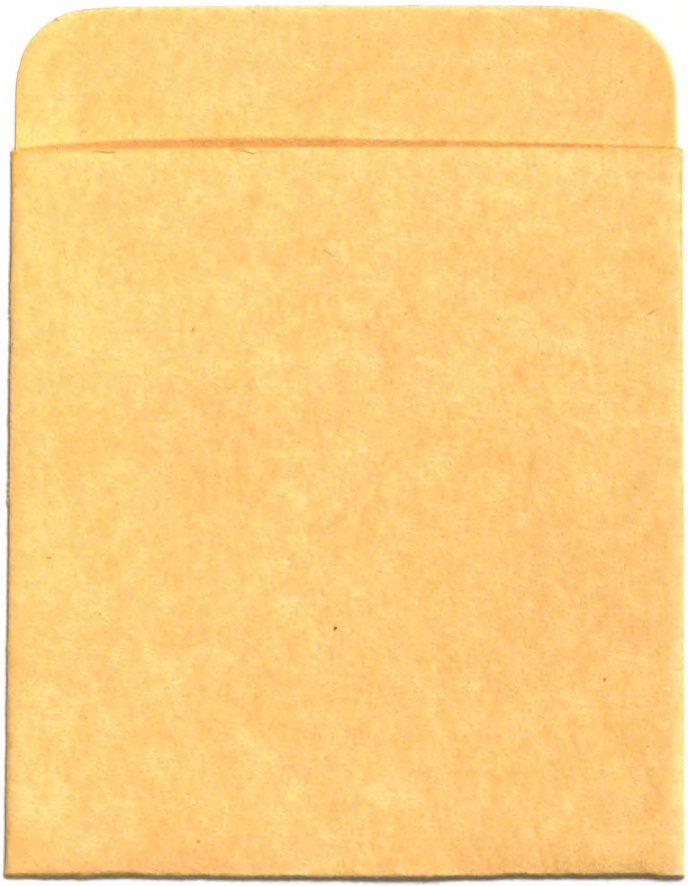
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